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GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



Open cast site goes back to nature, and back to the public

RESTORATION works on the former Margam open cast site near Kenfig Hill will be complete within the next year, when the site will re-open to the public, a spokesman for Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) has said.

The spokesman said:

"A new drainage system has already been created so that water which has filled the void remains at safe levels, while landscaping work on the surrounding land is progressing well and old industrial structures are being removed. "Some have already been demolished, while the main building will be knocked down this side of Christmas.

"Many of the rights of

way throughout the 480-acre (195-hectare) site will also be reinstated by the end of 2018."

As the site sits on the border between Bridgend county borough and Neath Port Talbot, the two local authorities have worked together on the scheme with Natural Resources Wales and the Coal Authority, who are overseeing the works.

Cllr Huw David, the Leader of BCBC, said: "Since coaling operations ended in 2008, we have been one of the parties involved in discussions to consider the restoration, long-term safety and future use of the Margam open cast site.

"Unfortunately, the original restoration scheme was not carried out by Celtic Energy and the land owners Oak Regeneration, so both councils have spent a considerable amount of time trying to resolve the issue, as we don't have the funds to fully restore the site ourselves.

"The site has been a concern for Kenfig Hill, Pyle and Cefn Cribwr residents for a number of years, and our main priority was always to make the site safe and deliver a solution that didn't involve any further coaling operations.

"Because the void had been filling with water for nearly a decade, an essential element of the scheme was to reduce the risk of flooding by creating an overflow channel which redirects water into the nearby river at a consistent flow. This work was completed recently.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

BROADLANDS ELVES RAISE CASH FOR ALZHEIMER'S



It was 'National Elf Day' on December 8 at the Llangewydd Arms in Broadlands, Bridgend, and staff dressed up for the occasion to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society. Manager Sara Smith (far right) said that a grand total of £310 was raised.

Photograph by Andy Wicks.

Everything is on track for Porthcawl's Christmas swim

EVERYTHING is in place for another record-breaking Christmas Day swim in Porthcawl, and organisers are inviting as many swimmers and spectators as possible to come along.

The weather, of course, can't be controlled, but with high tide at 10.30am, it means that swimmers heading for the water at the official start time of 11.45am should not have too far to run.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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Nurse wins lifetime honour for 'dedication to vulnerable patients'



Christopher Griffiths (centre) with his award and Melanie Davies, Prof Jean White, Jonathan Ridd and Jayne Rowlands.

MORE than 30 years devoted to patients with learning disabilities has seen an ABMU nurse honoured with a lifetime commitment award by the Paul Ridd Foundation.

Christopher Griffiths was among the winners at the Baglan-based charity's annual awards ceremony which celebrated work to improve healthcare for people with a learning disability.

He was recognised not only for his long-standing commitment to learning disability but also for being instrumental in creating the 'All-Wales Care Bundle', a guide designed to help staff ensure vulnerable patients receive appropriate care during a stay in hospital.

He trained as a learning disabilities nurse in 1982 and has spent most of career working in the community before becoming a consultant nurse in 2005.

He has also passed on his expertise, lecturing to nursing students in Cardiff and Swansea.

Chris, who leads ABMU's Primary and Acute Learning Disability Service, has a special interest in

meeting physical health care needs of people with a learning disability and remains passionate about addressing inequalities in their health care.

He said: "I was surprised and delighted to receive the award. It is a testament to the remarkable progress the Primary and Acute LD Liaison Service is making to the care of people with a learning disability. I am so proud to be part of that."

Chris was presented with his award by Jayne Nicholls and Jonathan Ridd, who founded the charity in memory of their brother Paul, who died at Morriston Hospital in 2009.

Other ABMU winners at the ceremony, which took place at the Aberavon Beach Hotel, included Karen Carpanini, Sian Berry and Sue Johnson, sister, staff nurses and learning disability champions at the Day Surgery Unit at Princess of Wales, who were all honoured in the Learning Disability Team category.

Sarah Rees, who works with Bridgend Community Support Team helping patients during discharge, won the Primary Care and Community Support Award.

The evening included awards for Family and Carers, Paul Ridd



Sister Karen Carpanini and staff nurse Sue Johnson receive their Learning Disability Team award. Unable to attend the ceremony was colleague Sian Berry.

Foundation Ambassadors and First Response.

The event also featured a fundraising silent auction with lots including art work and signed shirts from rugby player Liam Williams and footballer Gareth Bale.

A spokesman for the Paul Ridd Foundation said: "A huge congratulations and well done to all the winners and highly commended entries. Thank you for your continued efforts to improve the way people with learning disabilities are treated and for reminding others to always see the person not the disability."

AS

PITCH A PROJECT TO CHILDREN IN NEED

A DAY of pre-booked appointments has been organised by Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) in collaboration with BBC Children in Need on Wednesday, January 31 between 2pm and 5pm.

Open to voluntary and community groups serving Bridgend county borough that work with disadvantaged children and young people, 30-minute appointments will be available with James Bird, a BBC Children in Need grants officer, to discuss the eligibility and potential of a project proposal.

BBC Children in Need supports stable, well-managed and effective organisations that work with disadvantaged children and young people aged 18 years and under living in the UK (groups that work with people of all ages may also apply as long as the project is focused on work with those aged 18 and under).

Disadvantaged

children and young people include those affected by illness, distress, abuse, or neglect; any kind of disability; behavioural or psychological difficulties or living in poverty or situations of deprivation.

Places are limited. To apply for an appointment, forward an outline of your project proposal (no more than one side of A4), preferably by e-mail, to bavo@bavo.org.uk by no later than Wednesday, January 24.

Your application should focus on the children your project will work with and the differences that your project will make for them. You should be able to clearly demonstrate the link between the disadvantage and how your project will change the lives of the children involved for the better.

For further details visit the funding news section of www.bavo.org.uk or call BAVO on 01656 810400.

Carols by candlelight on Gaudete Sunday at St Iltyd's Church

THE next event in what has been a busy Advent – including a successful coffee morning, a parish meal, and a near-capacity service of Evensong and cross licensing attended by Bishop June Osborne – at St Iltyd's Church in Newcastle, Bridgend, the next event is, though joyous, altogether quieter and more reflective.

Gaudete – the Latin word for "Rejoice" – Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, is for many people the start of Christmastide 'proper'.

The Gaudete service this Sunday, December 17 at 4.30pm will

feature carols by candlelight, lessons and readings, and a warm welcome to all, whether regular churchgoers or not.

Admission is free, and there will also be refreshments including mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies afterwards.

Father David Lloyd of St Iltyd's said: "Everyone will be made very welcome for this very special service."

"The choir has been practising, and the church has been beautifully decorated by parishioners, so come along, bring your best singing voice and pause for a while in the hubbub of Christmas."

For more information, visit saintiltydbridgend@gmail.com or Facebook or telephone 01656 655999.

CALLING ALL SCHOOLS!

We want to showcase your nativity plays this Christmas. Send your pictures and a short write-up to editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL DECEMBER 21)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
14 Thur	03.32	8.6	15.57	8.7
15 Fri	04.22	8.8	16.46	8.9
16 Sat	05.09	9.1	17.25	9.1
17 Sun	05.49	9.3	18.04	9.4
18 Mon	06.24	9.4	18.41	9.5
19 Tues	06.58	9.5	19.14	9.4
20 Wed	07.32	9.7	19.48	9.4
21 Thur	08.03	9.4	20.19	9.3

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

We abide by the code of practice upheld by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This contains provisions for issues such as accuracy.

If you have a complaint, write to us at the address below, left, or call Gareth Jamieson on 01446 774484. All complaints will be fully investigated. If you are not satisfied with the outcome, you may wish to contact IPSO, Gate House, 1 Farringdon Street, London EC4M 7LG

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Armadillo donates cold-weather gear to The Wallich



From left: Nathan Bowles and Terry Daniels (Armadillo), Ellie Pearson and Mike Walmsley (The Wallich), and Shane Heath (Armadillo).

AROUND 200 people are set to benefit from heavy-duty winter clothing donated to homelessness charity, The Wallich.

PPE and workwear provider Armadillo Supplies has donated heavy-duty coats, gloves, hats and thermal socks – worth £13,000 – to the charity, which aims to prevent rough sleeping and help people into volunteering, education or employment.

The donation will support The Wallich's rough sleepers' intervention teams (RSIT) in Bridgend, Cardiff, Newport, Swansea and Wrexham, as well as those participating in its BOSS project – an initiative that reintegrates ex-offenders into their communities through skills training and work placements.

"We can't thank Armadillo enough for providing brand-new, warm clothing for our clients," said Mike Walmsley, corporate fundraising manager at The Wallich.

"The donation will help people experiencing homelessness and those undertaking employability training with us.

"Many of the people we support have had to 'make-do' for a long time with second hand clothes, and sometimes they're not up to the job. Something as simple as a new waterproof jacket, that fits properly, shows a person that they are valued and that they deserve nice things.

"This has a positive impact in helping someone back on their feet after experiencing a challenging period of their life."

Armadillo directors Shane Heath,

Terry Daniels and Nathan Bowles donated the winter packs during a visit to The Wallich's Learning Centre in Cardiff where they discussed the work of the RSIT and BOSS project teams.

The BOSS project works with ex-offenders to provide skills, qualifications, confidence and support needed to seek employment opportunities, without which, re-offending or homelessness is a real risk. Since September 2016, more than 600 people have enrolled on the programme, of which 136 are now in work or self-employed; 211 have completed pre-employment training and 132 have gained industry qualifications.

Nathan Bowles, non-executive director of Armadillo Supplies, said: "Given our line of work, we felt we could help those who are in need of some protection against the typically cold and unpredictable weather. We recognise that many of those who we are helping wouldn't otherwise have the funds or means to have a new heavy-duty coat this winter.

"We're proud to not only see our donation support the rough sleepers' intervention team in Bridgend, but also the BOSS project, too. There are certainly synergies that can be drawn from the BOSS project and Smart Solutions' work in ensuring our workers are skilled, qualified and compliant to work at a client's site, so we hope the clothes will help those taking part in outdoor work placements keep warm, as they focus on building all-important skills and confidence to help them find a route into employment."

For more information, visit thewallich.com.

Jamie Perkins murder: £10,000 reward offered for information

TWO months after the disappearance of Tonyrefail resident Jamie Perkins (right), the charity Crimestoppers is offering a reward of up to £10,000 for information that leads to the conviction of the person or people responsible for his murder.

Jamie (41), was well known in the Gilfach Goch and Tonyrefail area. The last sighting of him was on October 12 in Gilfach Goch. His body was discovered three weeks later on November 1 on Bog Lane in that area.

It is believed that the answers to what happened to Jamie, and why he died, lie within that locality.

Ella Rabaiotti, Crimestoppers manager for Wales, said: "Jamie had a young son, who will now have to grow up without his father. He will be sorely missed by his family, including his father and young son. The circumstances of how he was found are deeply distressing for his family.

"There are a lot of



questions that need answering surrounding Jamie's murder, and I am asking local people to speak up and tell us what you know.

"I promise that nobody will ever know that you contacted our charity, you will be 100 per cent anonymous. Always."

If you have any information on the murder of Jamie Perkins, contact the charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or through the non-traceable anonymous online Form at www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

The reward will qualify only if information is passed by either of those means; information passed directly to police will not qualify.

Corntown petition is supported by 350 local villagers

A PETITION inspired by a Corntown resident to get a pavement built from the village to the Golden Mile Country Inn has received the support of 350 people.

In September, Caroline Chester, a mum of three, told The GEM that she was keen to build on the community spirit created by a 'Great Get Together' event which was held in June at the village hall.

The Golden Mile is the village's 'local' and is just under half a mile out of the village, but it is a hazardous walk, particularly in darkness.

At the time she first publicised the petition, Caroline explained: "At our 'Great Get Together' event in June residents came together, some having lived in the village for several decades who did not know many of the other people attending.

"We want to change this and bring our community together, not just once or twice a year, but all year round.

"Having the Golden

Mile Country Inn on our doorstep would facilitate this. However, as a parent and a villager, sadly I would rather drive than walk because at the moment this is the safest option.

"The speed limit on the road is 60 miles per hour, with no pavement, and it discourages locals from walking, or even from going to the pub."

Since Caroline's initial appeal for support there has been some progress.

Caroline said: "We have over 350 signatures, online and handwritten, supporting the need for a pavement.

"We also have the backing of Vale MP Alun Cairns, Cllr Christine Cave and support from the

community council.

"I have yet to hear from the Vale Council directly, but indirectly have heard that there is no funding available.

"Recently there was an accident near the Golden Mile/quarry where a van came off the road – I'm sure funding would become available if there was a fatality due to the 60mph speed limit and no pavement for pedestrians. Why not prioritise it before such an incident occurs?"

Caroline says a pavement from the village to the A48, or at least to the quarry, would be a victory.

She would welcome any suggestions as to how to take the campaign further forward.

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'Sandville supporter Jim will be sadly missed'

AT any time of the year it is sad to lose someone, but our thoughts are with a dear friend Christine Peppall of Pendre, Bridgend, whose loving husband Jim died peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital on December 9.

With Chris's never-failing support and patience, Jim suffered ill-health bravely and with dignity for many years.

They both supported Sandville Self-Help Centre Porthcawl and raised enormous amounts of money organising popular rock 'n roll nights in the area, always well attended by their many friends.

Jim will be dearly missed by Christine, family and friends and his funeral arrangements will shortly be announced.

CT

BRITISH STEEL COKING PLANTS DEADLINE - 23 FEBRUARY 2018

The High Court has appointed Hugh James and Irwin Mitchell as lead solicitors in a group action for conditions associated with employment at coke works operated by British Steel. Specifically:

- chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- temporary exacerbation of asthma
- lung cancer
- chronic bronchitis
- squamous cell skin cancer

A closing date for notification of claims has been set by the Court as 23 February 2018.

If you think you or a deceased family member may have been affected and worked in a British Steel coke fuel plant as a coke oven worker and wish to consider joining the group, please contact Hugh James or Irwin Mitchell by 14 February 2018. They will send you further information and assess whether you may be eligible to join the group and claim compensation.

You may instruct an alternative solicitor other than Hugh James or Irwin Mitchell, and if you do it will be their responsibility to submit notice on behalf of any individual wishing to join the litigation to Hugh James and Irwin Mitchell and to the Defendants, before the closing date for notification of claims.

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Volunteers hailed as the 'greatest asset of ABMU'

A SEASONAL celebration brought together hundreds of ABMU's volunteers to thank them for their hard work throughout the year.

They were the guests of honour at the event to recognise the contribution of volunteers of all ages who man desks, help staff, serve drinks and provide a warm welcome at hospitals and clinics throughout the health board.

Thanking them at the festive lunch held at Aberavon Beach Hotel, ABMU Chairman Andrew Davies said all 450 volunteers provided vital support to patients and their families.

Feeling part of a team is one of the things that makes Wendy Jones value her days helping at the Regional Cardiology Unit at the Princess of Wales Hospital.

"The staff are wonderful, I feel included and trusted. I welcome patients, show them where they need to go, fetch them drinks, basically anything that helps the staff.



Volunteer services manager Joanna Parry with volunteer co-ordinators Julia Griffiths and Glenda Phillips at the lunch.

"I needed something to do after my husband died, I didn't want to just vegetate; now I feel I am useful and I have met so many interesting people. I love it."

Volunteer services manager Joanna Parry said: "We want to thank our existing volunteers for all their hard work, we like looking after them because they are our greatest asset."

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgangem.co.uk

Rugby club congratulates stalwarts on their 50th wedding anniversary

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC RFC would like to congratulate life member and long-serving club treasurer Terry Coles and his wife Angela on celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on December 9.

Both have been long term supporters of the club with rugby support and administration, with Angela supporting Terry in his treasurer's duty. Their former company, J G Plant, was also a generous sponsor of Bridgend Athletic.

The club owe Terry a great debt with his financial acumen in allowing it to currently support 14 teams from under-7s to senior rugby, with around 400 players benefitting from being able to pull on a BARFC shirt.

In common with many other local clubs at the turn of the century, BARFC were drawn into an attempt to buy success and suffered accordingly coming near the brink of folding.

With Terry's hard work, personal support

and the help of various committees, the club survived and despite some rocky roads, managed to turn around the situation.

Knowing when to invest has awarded the club with a great function room and downstairs bars for players and supporters.

Their son, Robert, was a prolific try-scoring centre for the Athletic. His 89 tries and 445 points in 168 first XV appearances brought Llanelli knocking. Robert tried out down west, but missed the camaraderie at the Athletic, returning in less than a season.

Terry has also until recently held the position of club chairman and has barely missed an Athletic fixture, home or away, for many years.

He enjoys nothing more than returning to the club on a Saturday evening in the season, and throughout the close season as well, to enjoy a few pints with his popular eldest son, Paul. Angela is a willing chauffeur for these occasions.

ADRIAN BURT

MAENDY YFC MEMBERS HAD A BUSY NOVEMBER



The Maendy YFC disco dancing troupe.



Lauren David took second place in the winter fair.

IT has been a very busy time for Maendy Young Farmers, with members taking part in various competitions.

Glamorgan YFC held a county quiz night in Pontyclun Athletics club on November 17, where members also competed in a disco dancing and 'Decorate a Christmas Wreath' competition.

Maendy disco troop were members Heather and Beth Jarvis, Rhodda Hodnett, Michael Burley, Jack and Harry Thomas. A special mention to Heather, who choreographed the retro melody of dance classics.

Members danced incredibly well – they were placed first. In the 'Decorate a Christmas wreath' competition, Louise Evans came third with her garland.

At the Royal Welsh Winter Fair which is held

in Llanwelld (Builth Wells) this year's minutes secretary Lauren David, who was placed first in the Glamorgan Stock judging competition, went through to the next round held at the winter fair. Lauren came second in the under-21 butcher's lambs competition. A great achievement.

On December 3, members' vocal skills were in demand for the annual Public Speaking competition in Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School. Our junior team, which was Oliver Popham, Evan Thomas and Tom Evans, came second.

There was recognition for Tom who won the Best Vote of Thanks on the day. In the 'member of the year' event, the club did well too. Oliver Popham was placed second in junior member and chairman Kate Thomas came second in senior member.

Christmas is fast approaching in a club with a mixture of social activities in store. A Christmas meal is planned for members in The Red Lion in Pendoylan.

A night out to Cardiff Winter Wonderland is promised to be a fun night with ice skating on the ice rink. The Carmarthenshire Queen's Ball in Swansea, where members have a night out and party the night away – all of this, and not forgetting plenty of pantomime practices too. The annual pantomime competition is not too far away.

A big thank you to all the members, families and supporters who have helped Maendy YFC this year. Next year there will be even more activities in club, more competitions and plenty of fun. We look forward to telling you all about it.

LE



Louise Evans with a Christmas wreath.

Local history Laurie Owen

HERE At The GEM, we do get occasional requests to be put in touch with our correspondents.

Recently, a local gentleman visited the GEM office, saying that he had information on the Paulett family, who had featured in one of Laurie Owen's Barry history columns.

We were happy to pass the number on to Mr Owen, but it is coming up as unobtainable.

If the gentleman concerned sees this, could he please contact the editorial staff (01446 774484) to check on his contact details?

GEM editorial staff

Christmas festivities for Laleston WI

LALESTON WI met on December 7, when 25 members enjoyed a Christmas party.

The buffet was supplied by all the members, with the table groaning with the amount of food.

Plenty of fun was had when Rosemary Dwyer held a quiz and members all sang 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'.

A marvellous raffle took place, with all

prizes donated by the very generous committee.

The evening finished with president Diane Marshall wishing all members a happy Christmas and New Year.

The next meeting will take place on January 4 at 7.15pm in the Bland Hall, Laleston. Visitors are welcome; for more information, contact Diane on 01656 656600.

AS

'Pay rises for public sector' – MP urges

OGMORE MP Chris Elmore is calling on the UK Government to fund pay rises for public sector workers in Wales.

He says the Royal College of Nursing has run a campaign in Wales asking the British Government to fund a public sector pay rise because the Welsh Government has had, he states, £1.6 billion of cuts made by Westminster to the block grant since 2010.

He said it is not for the devolved administrations to fund the pay rises in devolved nations and that it is for the British Government to step up and increase the funding for public sector workers to ensure they get the pay rise they deserve.

Michael Prosser

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£200k refurbishment for Nantymoel Mem

THE Memorial Hall in Nantymoel will be redeveloped using £200,000 set aside by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) to replace community facilities that have been lost in the village.

Since 2013, the council has been working with community groups to bring forward a proposal to fill the gap that has been left in the Ogmere Valley following the demolition of the Berwyn Centre.

Last week, cabinet members from the local authority agreed a business plan submitted by charitable organisation Nantymoel Boys and Girls Club and Community Centre for the Memorial Hall, known locally as the Mem, to be given a major refurbishment so that the venue can be used to attract events.

A council spokesperson said that the aim is for the facility to be "completely sustainable within three years, with much of the revenue coming from room hire".

The Nantymoel Boys and Girls Club

and Community Centre is a charitable incorporated organisation that has been formed by members of the Friends of The Berwyn and the Nantymoel Boys and Girls Club, which has been based at the Memorial Hall since 1923.

The Nantymoel Boys and Girls Club and Community Centre group are working with the council's Reach rural development team to bring their proposed development to fruition.

The Berywn Centre was originally built in 1901 as the Nantymoel Workmen's Hall and Institute. Until the 1960s the hall was used for community, education, cultural and social activities, but the building's condition was already deteriorating and it needed a rescue package from the Ogmere and Garw Urban District Council in 1973 for the building to reopen as a theatre and arts centre.

Attendance figures at the centre never recovered to their heyday of the 1960s, and in 2007 the theatre was closed when the roof was found to be unsafe. The building was demolished in 2013 after BCBC said it would cost more than £2m to make the centre safe.

First Minister visits Wilderness Allotments group in Porthcawl



Representatives of The Wilderness Allotments and Trinity Care and Support, as well as staff and pupils from Porthcawl Comprehensive School with Bridgend AM, Carwyn Jones (centre). Photograph by David Swidenbank.

THE Wilderness Allotments (part of Bridgend County Allotment Association) was recently recognised for its work across Bridgend County Borough with two awards.

The International Allotment Award was issued by the Council of Europe and a Green Flag Community Award from Keep Wales Tidy.

First Minister Rt Hon Carwyn Jones, the AM for Bridgend, took the opportunity to learn more about the awards when he was the guest of the association last week at an informal

event hosted by Trinity Care and Support at Trinity Church Porthcawl.

The organisation described the value the disabled gardening facility at Wilderness had become to their service users in terms of health and wellbeing. They looked forward to spending more time at the allotment once the disabled toilet was built.

Also in attendance were a teacher and three pupils from Porthcawl Comprehensive School History Club, who are working on a project about growing and cooking allotment produce during the Great War.

TS

LAST CHANCE TO SEE SANTA (IN BRIDGEND)

THE past three Saturdays have seen youngsters visiting Santa in his Carnegie House grotto in Bridgend.

Bridgend Lions group has raised valuable funds for local charities, especially from their local craft stalls.

This Saturday, December 16 is Santa's last visit before of the year.

Don't miss his last appearance from 10am to 4pm this Saturday; bookings are still being received at www.carnegiehouse.co.uk; on 01656 815757.

Thanks to everybody who has visited and supported Bridgend Town Centre this Christmastide.

LS

GET IN THE FRAME WITH JAKE MORLEY PHOTOGRAPHY

JAKE MORLEY Photography is now open at 222 Holton Road, Barry, and his lovely studio offers beautiful children's portrait photography and gorgeous wedding photography.

If you fancy something amazing to hang on your wall then you're in the right place - Jake has 10 years experience as a working photographer and his style is eclectic, stylish, modern and creative.

The studio is focused on his Wolf Folk photography sessions - these are all about creating beautiful children's portraits, creating wall art for your home that you can treasure; see wolffolk.co.uk for more information.

The sessions last around 45 minutes and are usually individual portraits shot in a cool and creative way, with a range of wooden backdrops, beautifully lit with an earthy and organic feel.

Gift cards are available, starting at a special opening offer of £150 for a shoot



including a USB of high resolution images - to arrange your shoot call 07984 030240 or visit jakemorley.co.uk

The studio is also a base for Jake's

established wedding photography; known for its nostalgic and natural feel, he shoots weddings locally, nationally and abroad.



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St Clare's *Seussical* is a sell-out success!

"OH, the thinks you can think, when you think about Seuss!"

These were some of the first lyrics heard in St Clare's School's production of *Seussical The Musical*, and what thinks were brought to life on the stage in this fresh, fun, and family-friendly musical!

You'd have to be living on another planet not to at least be somewhat familiar with the source material for this show, a collection of some of Dr Seuss' most iconic stories.

It was a thrill to see the beloved characters come to life on the stage. For those not familiar with the musical, it is a mash-up, of sorts, of the stories of Horton the Elephant, Gertrude McFuzz, Jojo the little Who with big thinks and all those that they encounter in their crazy Seuss-fuelled adventures.

The show included favourites like the Grinch and Mayzie La Bird and was narrated by the most iconic of Seuss' creations, *The Cat in the Hat*. It's a story about being different, believing in yourself, and relying on your imagination to take you to wonderful places.

Theatrical director, Hayley Cortine, created the opening for the school's production of the popular musical involving pupils from as young as year-2 right up to the sixth form, performing as animals and Whos. There was real skill employed in the production and the talent of the cast performing it.

What filled the stage with colour, texture and Dr Seuss magic though were the costumes. Children in the audience excitedly pointed out *The Cat in the Hat* (Kate Layland), Gertrude McFuzz (Emily Smith),

Horton the Elephant (Theo Quantick), Mayzie La Bird (Lili Smith), Sour Kangaroo (Molly Jones) and JoJo (Jack Olding), each character with a recognisable and well-designed outfit.

The *Seussical's* producer was Mary Layland. The costumes and props, (Louise Williams, Diane Trenoweth, Paula Williams and Kathy Phillips) hair and make-up were visually stunning. The acting was brilliant and the music, of course, was truly magical, thanks to musical director, Jason Staddon.

It was a really fun, uplifting, and exciting show, full of loveable characters, upbeat songs, colourful costumes and a talented cast. It was a show for the whole family, even the grinchiest of Grinches! **HF**



The Porthcawl Mayor with St Clare's cast of Seussical the Musical.

Everything is on track for Christmas swim

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Porthcawl Christmas Morning Swim is now in its 53rd year and organisers expect to have more than 1,000 swimmers again this year, making it the largest event of its kind in the UK.

The arrangements on the morning will be the same as last year. When swimmers register they will receive their commemorative mug before the swim.

Therefore, whether they have registered on line or on the morning they must come to the registration desk from 10.30am onwards.

Swimmers will leave the Hi-Tide Inn and gather at the top of the beach for the start at 11.45am. A 'start arch' (weather permitting) will be erected on the beach so that every swimmer will file through in a similar way to last year.

Porthcawl Coastguard will signal the start and the swimmers will then make their way down the beach through the spectators.

Spokesperson, Marilyn Smith said: "Some friends of the swim travel home for Christmas, so we get swimmers and spectators from all over the UK and abroad too."

"Last year, we had visitors from New Zealand, Canada and Germany, besides those who come from the south Wales area, all to enjoy a festive morning at Sandy Bay Porthcawl."

"Running up to Christmas our small committee have to work tirelessly to raise enough money to fund the cost of the swim, the souvenir programmes and the much sought-after Swim mugs."

"The main aim of the Swim is to raise as



A scene from last year's swim. (Photo by Glyn Evans).

much money as possible for our chosen charities, therefore we are relying on local people to help, either by swimming and getting sponsorship or, if you are a spectator, by giving generously to our bucket collection."

"The more money we collect the more we can give away."

"We are also appealing for the volunteers to support us as collectors and marshals, details of how to register an interest can be found on our website www.christmasswim.org or our Facebook page Porthcawl Christmas Morning Swim."

The chairman, Dave King, said: "This year the 'Swim' committee has chosen to donate money collected at the swim and via swimmers sponsorship to MacMillan Cancer Support."

"As in previous years we will also support other local organisations as well. A total of £10,000 was donated after the 52nd swim last year, so with your help maybe we can exceed this amount."

"Our promise is to give every penny that is collected on Christmas morning via the bucket collection and through swimmer's sponsorship to our chosen beneficiaries."

"We thank all those individuals and businesses who help us in so many ways to be able to put the 'Swim' on. We invite you to join in the fun, either as a swimmer or spectator."

"Come and soak up the festive family atmosphere and please support your organisers. We are overwhelmed by the fact the event has been so well supported in previous years. We continue to have record swimmers, spectators and collections. Help us to make the 53rd event equally successful."

He added: "On an official note, we need to point out that the Christmas Morning Swim Committee hold the license to collect money on Christmas Day. Therefore, any collecting of money at the event, other than by our official collectors, is prohibited."



Horton (Theo Quantick)



The Cat in the Hat

Oldcastle School's space experiment

OLDCASTLE Primary School have ventured into space with the release of a weather balloon.

The weather balloon was released by our year-6 pupils from St Illtyd's primary school near Merthyr with the help of 'Sent Into Space'.

The Sent Into Space team visited the children for a classroom session to explain the process of the balloon release. The balloon was released with a camera located underneath to record all the activity of the launch and trip to space.

As well as the camera, we attached a watch so we could monitor the time lapse and atmospheric effect on the watch. During the flight, the Sent Into Space team chased the balloon to monitor its progress and we were delighted to learn the balloon went 29.7 kilometres into the atmosphere and travelled as far as Oxford.

Children were fascinated with the launch but the photos we received bought the whole experiment to life. The photos from space were amazing and



Getting ready to launch the weather balloon.

beautifully captured Earth from space. The watch survived the trip and will be displayed in school as a memento of our venture into space. Mrs Katie Coleman, year-6 teacher, said: "The weather balloon release was organised as part of our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) programme of events. Children gained a lot of knowledge from the hands-on experience, and were truly inspired by the space exploration. We look forward to reviewing the video footage in class and discovering the journey our watch made. We would like to thank St Illtyd's for allowing us to use their school for the release."

Sara Peters



A trip to the Amazonian rainforest.

Bridgend man wins Wales Sustainability Champion award

PHIL WILLIAMS of Plan-It Eco recently had the honour of winning the 'Wales Sustainability Champion Award for 2017' presented at the Senedd at the Sustain Wales Awards evening organised by Cynnal Cymru.

Attended by AMs, business and 'community leaders', the evening presented awards to those who have contributed to Wales becoming a sustainable nation.

Phil returned to Wales after 18 years living around the world working in TV and theatre production.

He spent three years in Costa Rica where he was able to visit the Amazon Rainforest and spend time with a number of indigenous groups.

Living in Bridgend, he set up Plan-It Eco and has spent the last 20 years touring the country working with businesses, the Welsh Government, schools, colleges, universities, local authorities, charities and organisations running a variety of programmes and training seminars/courses on the importance of creating a sustainable future.

He claims that more than 500,000 people have been through the programmes and courses, with over an 80 per cent rebooking rate with places of education.

He runs a series of courses for members of the business community on bringing sustainability into the workplace.

Phil also takes anyone working in education, business people and students out to the Amazon Rainforest. To date over 1,700 people have been on the trips.

He has also brought an English speaking Amazonian Indian to the UK giving presentations to schools, and businesses. He spoke at The Welsh Assembly and met MPs at the Houses of Parliament.

Phil said: "It does not matter whether young or

old, rich or poor, no matter your faith or whether you have no faith, it is in all of us at home and at work to understand the importance of sustainability and to work individually and collectively towards creating a sustainable future, especially for future generations of our children and grand children."

Phil Williams (centre) receives his award at the Senedd.



Welsh rugby stars 'limp along' to support hospital presentation



Sam Warburton and Jonathan Davies (who have both had rugby injury-related surgery recently) join Sony representatives and Princess of Wales Hospital staff for the plaque unveiling.

BRIDGEND hospital staff are "beyond delighted" with a generous Sony UK Technology Centre donation supporting a unit caring for seriously ill children this Christmas.

Staff at the Princess of Wales Hospital have praised the Pencoed-based manufacturing facility, Sony UK TEC, which has donated over £60,000 to the hospital over the past five years, for a donation that will refurbish the Children's Ward.

Thanks to their contribution the area has received a much-needed makeover, along with new furnishings, which will create a welcoming environment for young people receiving a higher-level of nursing care over the festive season.

This was marked with a special plaque which was unveiled by Sony UK TEC managing director Steve Dalton.

They were joined by special guests, British and Irish Lions captain Sam Warburton, along with BBC Wales Sports

Personality of 2017 Jonathan Davies.

Steve Dalton OBE said it was a privilege to offer ongoing support to this "hugely beneficial" facility. He said: "As a business which prides itself on supporting the local community, it is our pleasure to be able to contribute to the improvement of this fantastic unit."

"Many valued staff members at Sony UK TEC have had family members who have relied on the specialist care at the Princess of Wales Hospital, therefore all of our team are very passionate and committed to backing their great work."

"We look forward to supporting its progress in the future."

Sony UK TEC's team have undertaken a variety of charity events in a bid to support the specialist area's fundraising efforts.

These have included a charity football match at Cardiff City Football Club, a charity golf day at the Royal Porthcawl Golf Course; a 300-mile bike ride from north to south Wales; cake sales, and individual fundraising

campaigns undertaken by its team players.

Sony UK TEC has supported the hospital as its adopted charity for the past five years, raising over £60,000 towards specialist equipment and projects, including the refurbishment of the playroom at the Children's Ward in 2015, the purchase of three Vapotherm machines that help babies and children with breathing difficulties.

Additional donations have included hand-held pulse oximeters, drip stands and other pieces of equipment.

Eirlys Thomas, ABMU head of nursing for children's services said: "Fundraising requires a great deal of commitment and hard work and we are all extremely grateful to the staff of Sony for their kind donations and their support in the refurbishment of the four-bed bay within the ward area."

"On behalf of all the children and staff at the Princess of Wales Hospital I would like to say a big thank you and wish them all a very happy Christmas and new year."

AS

POLICE WARNING AFTER BRACE OF BURGLARIES

POLICE in Bridgend are appealing for information following two burglaries which occurred on Wednesday, December 6.

Those responsible gained entry to the houses on Sam Hill and Briary Way by smashing rear patio windows.

Those involved stole jewellery, purses, keys, bags and a mobile phone.

The public are being urged to be vigilant and to report suspicious incidents.

Both burglaries occurred in broad daylight and were reported when the occupants returned home.

Anybody with information about the burglaries can contact 101 quoting reference 478042 (Sam Hill) 477995 (Briary Way).

Burglaries are known to increase in the run up to and during the Christmas holidays.

DC Neville Evans, said: "It's sad but it's true; criminals will target houses knowing there a higher chance of there being newly bought valuables inside at this time of the year."

"The public can do a number of simple things which can minimise the risk of being targeted."

Police tips to avoid being a victim of a burglary include:

Don't give burglars easy access to your garden.

Never leave gifts or valuables in view from the outside.

Always secure windows and doors.

Don't advertise that fact you're away from home on social media.

Don't leave giveaway signs that you aren't at home - get a neighbour you can trust to keep an eye on your home, and do things like leave a light on in the evening or collect mail from inside your door.

New website is more than just software

BRIDGEND-based 'engineering super-store' Riverside Hardware has launched its new online tool sales portal, which was developed by Bridgend-based web designers ITCS.

Riverside Hardware's customers can now view and order what a spokesperson said is one of the UK's largest ranges of Draper Tools and Calor Gas online, as well as products from other suppliers, and have the tools they need delivered to their door for a delivery charge, or pre-order to click and collect from the

Bridgend store.

Managing director Ryan Woodbridge said: "We try to offer more in terms of product range and support than the chain hardware stores, as many of our customers are professional workmen investing in hardware and tools for their business."

"It follows that we have invested time making sure our staff are skilled and knowledgeable about the tools and hardware we sell. Customers often seek our advice and experience when choosing the right tool for the job."

"However, we could previously only provide products and support to customers who were

physically present within opening hours. The new website will enable us to sell our tools and share our tips and experience with a wider audience, and also helps customers place orders and learn more about our products when our physical store is closed."

"We're really grateful to ITCS for making our huge range of products so easy to order online, and keen to stress that the new website is designed to enhance and complement the great customer service we are known for providing in-store."

Search online for www.riversidehardware.co.uk.

Trainer Talk - Jonathan Tudor by Brian Lee

THE best-known Tudor in Welsh pointing may be former champion jockey James, but Jonathan is fast making a name for himself as one of the most astute handlers in the sport.

With an expanding stable including names such as last year's Dunraven Bowl winner *Repeat Business*, 2016 Subaru Champion *Northgeorge* and the useful *High Hatton*, Jonathan will have 15 to run this season. He tells me how he is hoping to spread his reputation far beyond his Merthyr Mawr (near Bridgend) base.

"I'm a farmer and a butcher by profession. We have about 200 ewes and used to have shops across the Rhondda Valley," Jonathan tells me when asked about how he got involved in pointing. "But my grandfather – a horse dealer who used to buy and sell pit ponies – and father hunted and we've always been into racing. Dad was MFH for the Llangeinor for 35 years – I'm just on my first season!"

Jonathan, who rode 75 winners – "73 points and two Hunter Chases including the Times Final at Towcester on *St Helens Boy* in 1988" – came into the sport through the usual route of pony club, hunting, show jumping and cross-country and had his first ride on *Bright Hope* at Llanvayle in 1981.

"I was 16 on the Thursday and rode on the Saturday nine days later," he recalls. "Dad bought me a maiden to start on but we ran in a Men's Open! The plan was to jump round the back and have a safe ride – we pulled up, and I wouldn't have worried if I'd never ridden again!"

However, the pair persevered, and Jonathan scored for the first time at Scoveston

Fort in 1983, on his 18th birthday. "I would have won there the year before," he smiled, "but Paul Hamer squeezed me out. I don't hold it against him though – I was best man at his wedding!" Did he say anything to the stewards, I innocently ask?

"That's a waste of time in Wales!" he responds, grinning broadly.

While Jonathan had his biggest success in the saddle on *St Helens Boy*, he names mare *Kelly's Double* as the best he rode. "She won three points in the late 1980s," he tells me, "including beating [prolific winner] *Dingbat* at Bredwardine. She was favourite for a Novice Hunter Chase at Ascot but it was snowed off and she broke her pelvis a few days later. She would have been as good as *St Helens Boy*."

Jonathan cites his reason for retiring in 1999 as "weight – simple!" and moved seamlessly into training. "I always had one or two and have always trained for Ralph Thomas, who owned the point-to-point course at St Hilary," he explains, "and I used to have a permit."

His first winner came when *Parsons Pride* – owned by Jonathan's brother-in-law Jeffrey Bird and ridden by James – scored at Worcester at 66/1 but the pointer that put him on the map was *Minsgill Mans*. "He won 13 races," Jonathan tells me fondly, "including the Crudwell Cup at Coldharbour three times, and he was second twice in the Dunraven Bowl at Chepstow. Every Welshman with a pointer wants to win the Dunraven and we finally did it last year with *Repeat Business*."

Jonathan's score has reached double figures in each of the last three seasons, which he puts down to an

improvement in the quality of horses he trains.

"We're buying better," he admits. "We're trying to buy what we want, not what people want us to train. We get orders, but we like to find horses to fit." The emphasis here is very much on the "we", with the team consisting of Jonathan, James and Jeffrey. The latter explains how they work. "I wanted to buy a young horse good enough for hunter chasing, with the intention of winning the Dunraven," Jeffrey tells me.

"We went to Doncaster sales and shortlisted six horses each – I go through the book with geekish enthusiasm, while James is very good on the form. *Repeat Business* was on each of our lists, so James bought him."

As for his hopes and aspirations, the trainer is guarded. "My mother always said we have Gold Cup horses in January and knackers in March," he laughs. Locally-based Nick Williams, returning to the saddle after a two-year break, is expected to take the bulk of the mounts while Jonathan also expects to give a few mounts to 16-year-old Connor Brace, grandson of pointing stalwart David, and there's the small matter of son Jack also turning 16 during the season...

When I visit Jonathan's yard, he is about to canter three of his string – *Northgeorge* (ridden by Glen Phillips – "My right-hand man who rides anything, he spent over 25 years with Bryn Palling") – unraced six-year-old *Dubai Or Dingle*, who runs at Bishops Court this season (Jonathan's daughter Olivia), and an unnamed Babodana four-year-old (Jack) – up "The Big Dipper", a local sand dune that is the second-highest in Europe.

The morning's work over, we retire to the Tudor kitchen for coffee, and sitting there is a real family affair. As well as Jonathan, Judith, Olivia and Jack, James and Jeffrey, I chat with jockey Richard Patrick (Olivia's partner) and Martyn David, father of

Evan and Tom! Talk turns, as it so often does, to the state of the sport of point-to-pointing and – unsurprisingly – the Tudor clan has a wide range of views.

We start on the contentious issue of Hunter Certificates for point-to-pointers and the proposed change to a centralised fee for the 2018/2019 season.

"Any sensible horse we've got, it hunts," confirms Jonathan. "They carry me, Jack, my daughters (Alice and Harriet also ride), friends... *High Hatton* goes out about a dozen times a year and I ride him myself." And as for the changes to the rules? "The one about pointers not needing to hunt could have been left unsaid – and I'm totally against the plan for the flat fee (next year)."

"The MFHA is trying to get it in through the back door," continues Jonathan, "but I think it will cause a rift in every hunt. I know they want a level playing field, but I feel it should be up to the individual hunt to control it and up to the MFHA to control the people who are stepping out of line!"

Jeffrey's main gripe is Hunter Chase eligibility. "They should make more of them grassroots races, including the foxhunters – it should be the pinnacle for point-to-pointers. I'd accept a reduction in the number of races if they're not open to professional yards, but having said that, I've got no problem taking on the likes of Paul Nicholls – we sent *High Hatton* to Musselburgh last season to race against *Wonderful Charm*."

Not surprisingly for an ex-champion, James has strong views on what does work, and what he would change in the sport. "Club Conditions races are the way forward," he affirms. "They mean you don't have to take on the good ones in Opens – horses who's finish third or fourth in an Open can be competitive."

He would like to see a removal of the cap on prize money. "I wouldn't limit it. If hunts can do what they want, you might take a

horse to a race you wouldn't otherwise, for the prize money. And if a hunt wants to put on a £10,000 race, good luck to them."

With apologies to Andrew Merriam and Clare Hazell, I ask Jonathan what he would do if he were in charge of the PPA. "I'd standardise entry fees at £25 a race, with no need to give out passes – we paid £45 at some meetings last year." He agrees with James on prize money. "It should be as much as you can get. £130 is a joke, especially when they're pony racing for three grand in Ireland."

"They were racing for the same money when Dad was riding," chips in James, while Judith adds: "I've been meeting secretary for the Llangeinor for 22 years and the prize money has only gone up once."

Jonathan's next suggestion is more leftfield, but one I heartily condone. "Owners should help at their local point-to-point," he suggests. "If everyone gave an hour of their time, a meeting would be much easier to run!"

The kitchen is a babble of voices as I ask the Tudors and their friends what they love about pointing. For Jonathan, it's: "The people, the friendship, the banter, Dai Gibbs – he cracks me up! I've made some fantastic friends and we've had loads of funny moments – I remember Dai Jones once weighing out for three jockeys in the same race without getting off the scales: he was slimmer then!"

Olivia stresses the family nature of the sport: "We've all become friends with their children too," and Judith agrees, saying: "It's nice that we all go as a family. Jonathan's the most optimistic bloke there is," she continues.

"He dances across the landing every race day morning, singing 'We're going to have a winner!'" Martyn David, quiet until now, interjects deadpan from the corner. "In his underpants..."

In The Saddle: Jack Tudor I FIRST remember seeing Jack Tudor ride at Bredwardine



in May 2014, when he had just turned 12, and he impressed me with his coolness on *She's Agoodun*, beating older rivals in a pony race. He turns 16 on May 9 and plans to have his first rides over fences just four days later, at Lower Machen.

"I haven't chosen my horse yet," he laughs, "but I'd like to ride *Desert Roe* (entered at Bishops Court on Sunday) – he jumps well, and is probably the safest horse in the yard!"

Jack, who has ridden "roughly" 15 pony race winners to date, scored for the first time on only his second mount, *Bugsy* at Bonvilston, at the tender age of nine. He laughs again when I ask about his rivalry with Conor Brace (the two are inseparable on the racecourse).

"We're good mates," confirms Jack. "I don't beat him very often!"

Asked about how he sees his future, Jack is commendably ambitious. "I'd like to ride for two or three seasons in points, make a name for myself, then turn conditional – just like James Bowen and Richard Patrick." And as the latest in the Tudor racing dynasty, who's to say he can't succeed?

Jonathan Tudor's Five to Follow Double Dipper "An ex-Irish five-year-old, owned by Jeffrey who was third at the end of June and we think he might be nice. He'll be out at the end of January."

High Hatton "I think he's the stable star, because I bought him – James and Jeffrey disagree,



Jack on the Babodana four-year-old.

because they bought *Repeat Business*! He'll have a couple of runs then may be a mount for Jack later in the season in Novice Riders races, although he may go for the John Corbet again (he was third in 2016)."

Northgeorge "The toughest horse I've ever trained (he ran 12 times in 2015/2016 and nine last season) and comes back bucking and kicking after every race. Disappointed in the John Corbet and will stick to points this time. He'll be out around Christmas time."

Repeat Business "Will start off in points and we'll aim at a Hunter Chase later on –

maybe the United Hunts Cup at Cheltenham. He needs to be mentally and physically right – when he is, he's brilliant. He's not entirely reliable but we love him to bits. We dream about going for one of the big ones, but then we wake up!"

Unnamed 4-year old by Dr Massini "We bought him at Ascot in August to order for a former owner of mine, who wants to get back in the game. They want to name him after their last horse, so he'll probably be called *Billy-Gwyn III*! He's a nice little horse – we'll try and win a maiden and then see."

Bridgend Quiz League

HERE are this week's teasers from the Bridgend Quiz League:

1. On which Mediterranean island is Messina?
2. Who was the mother of Elizabeth I?
3. Snowmen, Anna Kournikova and American Airlines are nicknames for what?

The results for the Quiz League for December 11 are: Cup: Mackworth Arms 62, Tondur Railway Club 67;

Laleston Inn B 50, Pheasant Poachers 57; Penybont FC Nomads 63, Laleston Inn A 65; Pheasant Gamekeepers 49, Crown Maesteg 47.

Plate: Ty Risha Royals 75, Five Bells B 50; Chatterton Shunters 65, Prince of Wales Coychurch 49; Oddfellows Arms Bettws 49, Cabo Roche 58.

SK

Answers:
1. Sicily
2. Anne Boleyn
3. Poker hands.

Santa in Porthcawl!

PORTHCAWL Lions gave a huge cheer in their Grotto in the town's museum in John Street when Santa arrived last Saturday.

He is coming to the Grotto every Saturday now at 11am on December 16 and December 23.

Santa stays in the grotto until 4pm and every child who sees him is given a quality toy. Santa can be seen by

good boys and girls for £4.

Runners can now register for the Porthcawl Lions Boxing Day Fun Run. It's a 7k course and every runner who finishes receives a medal.

There are prizes for different categories based on age, in addition to a special prize for runners in fancy dress. Full details are available on Porthcawl lions web page which is porthcawllions.org.uk

DR

CALLING ALL SCHOOLS!

We want to showcase your nativity plays this Christmas - send your pictures and a small write-up to editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk!

Village lights up for homeless charity

THE village of Aberthin has been illuminated this December by an advent trail that serves a dual purpose – highlighting the good work of a south Wales homeless charity and boosting the local community spirit.

Villagers' windows are being lit up with an array of festive displays.

Local resident Siobhan Bickerton told THE GEM: "The advent trail has been a great success, encouraging community spirit and also raising money along the way for The Huggard Centre."

"The idea came about after seeing the advent windows in Arcot Street in Penarth last year."

"I mentioned the idea to some of my fellow villagers at the beginning of November and was bowled over by the enthusiasm."

"Rachel Jones in particular was very supportive and helped get this off the ground."

"She suggested that along with raising the community spirit we should also use the opportunity to raise money for a local charity."

"She suggested The Huggard Centre which I

agreed with because I work in Cardiff and have seen the rise in street homelessness over the years.

"It has been wonderful to see how many people from our small village have got involved – either by creating a window or turning up to support when windows are 'opened' at 6pm each night."

"This is the first 'Aberthin Advent Window Trail' but definitely not the last."

"We are all looking forward to the culmination of the event at 6pm on Christmas Eve at The Hare and Hounds."

The Huggard Centre is a Cardiff-based charity which provides frontline services for homeless people. It provides vital support such as accommodation, washing facilities, hot meals and much more.

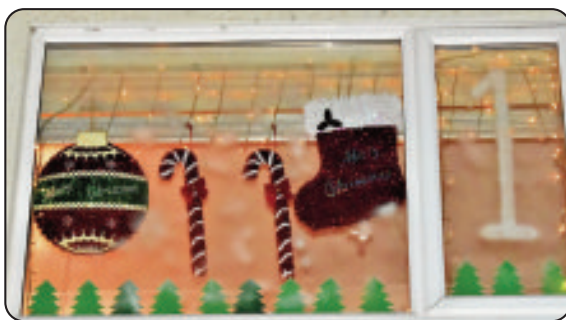
As we experience very low temperatures in Wales, the charity's winter appeal is more urgent than ever. To donate directly, go to: <http://www.huggard.org.uk/how-you-can-help/donate/>.

To view more of Aberthin's festive advent trail, visit: <https://aberthinadventrail.wordpress.com/blog/>

by TIM CHAPMAN 07891 690798 or email tim.chapman@glamorgan-gem.co.uk



Advent window nine by Rachel, Ian, Megan and Kate Howells.



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Advent window six by Katrina, Craig, Henry and Zachary Jackson.



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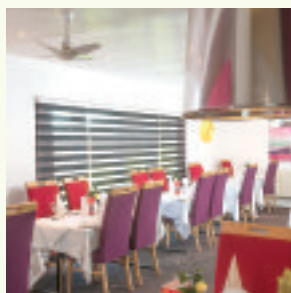
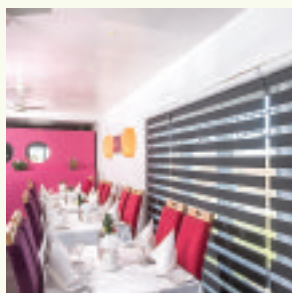
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Farming Matters

The farming community must adapt to survive

MANY of us will be familiar with Darwin's theory that 'it is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is most adaptable to change.'

Yet change is something many of us will find difficult to deal with from time to time. How much we resist change will depend on how much value we see in what we're being asked to change, or how possible it is for us to actually make that change.

And while change is often necessary, it can be frightening, of course.

However, the industry must move with the times, and we must embrace change – that it is inevitable. Our industry must keep moving forward and embrace technology if we want to see it survive.

So, as managers of our businesses we have to illustrate to our employees or family members, the benefits of change so that they, hopefully, develop an excited and positive attitude.

At the same time, we would expect the same from government and policy makers to show us exactly why certain changes are beneficial.

Change you would argue has to make us more resilient as an industry and that change for the sake of change is pointless. Forward planning and horizon scanning are some of the buzzwords we are all too familiar with in the



by **RACHEL SAUNDERS** of the F.U.W.

context of change.

Uncertainty in the world, the need to maintain relevance and deliver value are also key drivers behind the need to evolve.

Yet in the context of Brexit, there is a brutalism in statements from our politicians, which predict that only the top 25 per cent of some sectors will thrive post-Brexit.

So, what about the rest of the people? It is very easy to be elitist, and to take the high performers with you. But how do you take the rest of the people with you?

For our communities and societies to work, we need everyone to have a chance. For change to work in our benefit we have to look after the 75 per cent that might struggle with the change coming their way and offer a helping hand.

And that is exactly what the F.U.W. will do. We will try our best to make sure that the changes coming your way are happening for the right reasons, and that they will deliver a prosperous future for the many, not just the few.

Keith's 'green Movember' raises £1,200 for Marie Curie

A GREAT-grandfather who was diagnosed with inoperable brain tumours in September and given weeks to live has taken part in Movember – and even had a daffodil painted on his head, and his moustache dyed green, in aid of charity.

Edward John – who is known as Keith to family and friends – has been staying at the Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale Hospice in Penarth since October, and pledged to grow a Chopper Reid style moustache during November to raise money for Marie Curie.

The charity's Bridgeman Road hospice provides round-the-clock care and support to people living with a terminal illness, and their families.

Throughout November, more than £1,200 was raised through his JustGiving page for the hospice.

"I wanted to give something back to the hospice, who have been looking after me so well," said Keith, from Barry.

"I pledged to grow some serious facial and head hair in my final days. I haven't grown any facial hair since the 1970s and have always shaved."

Keith dyed his facial hair green and had a Marie Curie daffodil painted in the centre of his head as part of the fundraising. Les the

barber gave up his own time to help Keith achieve his goal.

His son, Mark, writing on the fundraising website, said: "My Dad Keith is a truly inspirational man."

"He has lived his life always putting others first and always happy to help anyone out of a sticky spot. In fact he has always his family and friends before his own needs."

He said since receiving the news about the tumours at the end of September, the family have been through a tough time, but added that staff at the hospice have been "amazing" during his dad's stay.

"Please support him in his feat to achieve this and I will post updated photographs to prove he is reaching his goal."

"This is another inspirational and worthy cause proving my dad is an all-round good egg and always looking to put a positive spin on things and help others."

His daughter, Diane Chatwell, added: "My father is one amazing man, he is always thinking of others."



NEWS IN BRIEF

We've Got Talent

ON Friday, December 15 at Bethel Baptist Church in Barry the youth groups will be hosting an evening of talent.

The doors open at 6pm and the show starts at 6.30pm. There will be refreshments and cakes available during an interval with a suggested donation of £2 per person.

All ages welcome. The show is to raise money for the youth to go away for an adventure weekend.

SOAR CAROLS
A CAROL concert will take place at Soar Chapel, Rhiwceiliog on Thursday, December 14 at 7pm featuring the Mid Glamorgan Mixed Choir.

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Caution urged over counterfeit banknotes

CRIME - FIGHTING charity Crimestoppers is appealing to the public for information on those making, buying or selling counterfeit banknotes.

In the first half of 2017, over 237,000 worthless counterfeit banknotes with a notional value of over £4.88 million were removed from the UK's streets.

Christmas is a time when more cash changes hands, especially £20 and £50 notes, and fraudsters take advantage of the festive season by targeting busy shops with temporary staff.

Director of Operations for Crimestoppers, Roger Critchell, said: "Fake

notes are completely worthless and knowingly holding or passing on counterfeit notes is a crime."

"The purpose of this campaign is to raise awareness of counterfeit money, especially around Christmas when money can be tight, but also to highlight how heartless and callous fraudsters can be when targeting their victims."

If you have information on those making, selling or buying counterfeit notes then please contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or through our Anonymous Online Form at crimestoppers-uk.org/give-info.

Further information on fake notes can be found on Crimestoppers' web page at fakenotes.co.uk.

ADVERTORIAL

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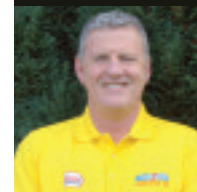
If you see condensation in your windows just visit our website or give us a call on 0800 61 21 118. We will send out our highly experienced engineers for a free no obligation quote. A Cloudy2Clear quote takes on average no longer than 20 minutes. Once the quote is completed, we will sit down with you and explain the problem and tell you

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'Resilience programme' launched at local school

FORMER Welsh rugby captain, Ryan Jones, made visited Mary Immaculate High School recently to share his experiences of dealing with the pressures of performing at the highest level and developing the personal skills and self-belief needed to achieve his goals.

As part of a 'resilience programme' introduced at Mary Immaculate this year, pupils at the school in Wenvoe will have access to a range of events, guest speakers, university visits, business partnerships, and mentoring opportunities, designed, said a spokesperson, "specifically to raise

aspirations, develop mental toughness and increase personal confidence".

Assistant headteacher Huw Richards said: "Reducing the impact of poverty on attainment is one of the Welsh Government's three national priorities. We are fully supportive of this agenda here at Mary Immaculate and are a designated 'closing the gap' school.

"This means that we are piloting a number of new approaches to build resilience and encourage ambition among young people, and will share best practice in this area with other schools across Wales.

Mr Jones said: "It was a pleasure to come and visit Mary Immaculate and it is really important that the school helps build pupils' resilience."



Ryan Jones with some of the pupils of Mary Immaculate.

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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



Andrew 'Freddie' Flintoff and Specsavers founder Dame Mary Perkins at the opening of the 800th Specsavers store

DON'T DELAY, BOOK AN EYE TEST TODAY

With opticians on every high street and a growing number of out of town locations, keeping on top of your eye health has never been more convenient.

But despite that, a survey* has revealed that a quarter of UK adults are still risking sight loss by not having an eye test every two years, as recommended.

The research carried out by Specsavers and Royal National Institute of Blind People also identified that 250 people nationally start losing their sight every day despite half of all cases being avoidable. Routine eye tests are key in detecting and managing issues early.

Specsavers has just opened its 800th UK and Irish store in Sainsbury's in Preston – part of its ongoing drive to make eye care more accessible. It is the fifth outlet Specsavers has opened within a supermarket this year, with more to follow.

Andrew 'Freddie' Flintoff cut the

ribbon to the 800th store and popped in for an eye test. The cricketer turned broadcaster said: 'So many of us take our sight for granted. To see how far eye care has developed since Specsavers opened its first store is incredible.'

Specsavers features the latest clinical technology and highly qualified and professional teams. Complete glasses start at £25 with two for one available from £69. A variety of designer styles, including Kylie Minogue Eyewear, BOSS Orange and the new Balmain range are also available.

Eye tests can be booked online. Customers that have undergone an eye test elsewhere are welcome to bring in a valid prescription. Specsavers offers home eye care to those who cannot visit a store unaided. Free hearing tests are also available at Specsavers.

* The State of the Nation Eye Health Report 2017: A Year in Review

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Charity donates parcels to Christmas hospital babes



BLISS, a charity for premature and sick babies, has donated Christmas parcels to every neonatal unit in Wales including the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend.

The Christmas gifts will arrive at the neonatal units this week and will be distributed by staff and volunteers.

The parcels, which also contain gifts for parents, comprise: a Bliss branded teddy bear, dungarees, photo frame, children's book, snacks and toiletries.

The parcel includes additional information about the support parents can receive from Bliss. The majority of these gifts have been donated by

Bliss's corporate partners including Pampers, Mothercare, Barnack Confectionary and Mush.

Caroline Lee-Davey, chief executive at Bliss said: "Having a baby on the neonatal unit can be an isolating experience for parents – especially at Christmas. We hope through this small gesture, we can let parents know that they aren't alone.

Head of Nursing for Children's Services for NHS Wales Eirlys Thomas said: "On behalf of all the parents and babies we would like to thank Bliss for their kind donations. They will certainly cheer up all the parents who will need to spend Christmas in hospital with their babies."

NEWS FROM THE FONMON APIARY Planning to create a new colony next year

HAS winter finally arrived? Single figure temperatures and even some snow would suggest it has.

However, yet to come are wet and windy weather patterns accompanied by double figure temperatures, and such conditions will certainly encourage the bees to venture outside.

In the main, there is much less external activity. However, when favourable temperatures do occur, out come the bees.

Here at Fonmon, all colonies are well provisioned and have had Varroa control treatment earlier in the year.

The mesh floors allow dead mites and hive debris to fall into the trays under them and yield information to the

beekeeper as to the position of the colony within, and gives some idea of the mite situation.

I still have a swarm box up in a tree alongside the main apiary, and it is occupied. There was some interest shown in acquiring this swarm from two people but that never happened, and it is my intention to lower them down and site them in the main apiary.

This cannot be done until there is a prolonged spell of cold weather that will confine the swarm to their box. If I try to move them while they are still active, the flying bees will keep returning to the location that they occupied before the move i.e. the tree, and will perish.

Once the move is carried out and the swarm survive the winter, it will be next spring before any internal inspection can be carried out. The swarm box is really only a temporary home and the bees within should be transferred to a proper hive as soon as possible.

Once they are at ground level and in the apiary, they will stay as they are. Because the swarm box is only temporary, it does not hold a full complement of frames, there is a lot of space within. The bees will have built comb to fill the space and provide themselves with living and storage space.

A swarm is pre-programmed to build a new home and they do precisely that. The downside here is that of instead of the new comb being built in nice wooden frames, it will be attached to what is the roof of the box and when it comes time to inspect them, the lifting of the roof will also lift the attached comb – it will be interesting, to say the least.

Care and patience should see a successful outcome; it will be tricky and as I hope to have a new beekeeper present who will be giving this swarm a new home. Some beekeeping knowledge will be passed on.

Meanwhile, I have repairs to the apiary structure to carry out. A new entrance gate is long overdue, the workbench is collapsing and the vegetation requires cutting back.

All will be done before spring arrives and before the beekeeping year picks up once more – watch this space.

HAROLD WILLIAMS



Barry Island beach decorated with giant 'Christmas Jumper'



VISITORS braving the cold on Barry Island beach were put in the Christmas spirit recently when faced with a giant festive jumper created in the sand to mark Save the Children's fundraiser, 'Christmas Jumper Day'.

Save the Children teamed up with Pembrokeshire 'sand circles' artist, Marc Treanor, to mark the event by creating a Christmas jumper design on beaches in Anglesey, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and the Vale of Glamorgan.

Christmas Jumper Day is back for the sixth year running on Friday, December 15, and is expecting over 5 million people across the UK to take part to help raise money for children around the world. Taking part is simple by signing up at christmasjumperday.org, sticking on a seasonal sweater and donating £2.

Schoolchildren from local primary school Ysgol Sant Baruc and the Save the Children's Ambassador in Wales and former S4C and HTV weather presenter

Jenny Ogwen, who lives in Barry, staff and supporters of the charity joined Marc at the beach to help him create and capture the artwork.

Marc Treanor said: "When I was approached by Save the Children to re-create a Christmas Jumper on a beach, I jumped at the chance to help. Beaches are not traditionally associated with Christmas, so I am looking forward to the challenge of working on Welsh beaches in December, and supporting a great charity which helps children all over the world as well as here in Wales."

Louise Davies, the head of Save the Children in Wales added: "We're thrilled to have the support of talented artists and famous names to promote this year's Christmas Jumper Day in

Wales. "All money raised could help give a child living in a refugee camp clothes to keep them warm through winter, help us buy nutritious food for their entire family, or set up a safe space to give children the chance to be children again."

"It could also help our work in some of the most deprived communities in Wales supporting families through our programme work."

To register to take part on Friday, December 15 and receive a free fundraising pack visit christmasjumperday.org. Welsh language fundraising packs and posters are also available to download from the website once registered.

AS

The GEM
will be taking a break for Christmas!
The last edition for 2017 will be dated 21st December.
The first edition for 2018 will be 4th January.
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New era for local churches



Back row (left to right): The Reverend Anthony Beer; The Reverend Canon Mike Komor; and The Reverend Mark Broadway.

Front row (left to right): The Venerable The Archdeacon of Llandaff Peggy Jackson; Peter Craven, The Right Reverend The Bishop of Llandaff June Osborne; The Reverend David Lloyd; The Reverend Pauline Smith; Christine Judd; Huw Gwyn Jones; and Penny Williams.

THE Bishop of Llandaff took part in a special service to mark the beginning of a new era for churches in Bridgend.

The Right Reverend The Bishop of Llandaff June Osborne marked the creation of the 'Bridgend Ministry Area', which has a population of 49,000 people and includes eight churches.

The ministry area comprises the parishes of Coity, Nolton and Brackla with Coychurch, Laleston and Merthyr Mawr with Penyfai, and Newcastle, and will be led by five clergy and six readers who were authorised for their roles

by the bishop at the service.

Bishop Osborne said: "It's a great pleasure to celebrate a new step in the life of the Church in Wales' churches in the Bridgend Deanery. They are pledging to work together and support each other in order to strengthen their vision and capacity for outreach.

"Working in collaboration will make them more effective in bearing witness to the Christian faith and in their desire to build up the common good, serving all the communities these churches represent. I applaud their efforts to do more to respond to the

needs of this area."

The Reverend Canon Mike Komor said: "Over the last 12 months the clergy, readers and wardens of the benefices concerned have been engaging in a number of ministry area conversations to determine the right path for us.

"This formal enabling of authorised ministry across parish boundaries is an exciting step in the

direction of growing cooperation and collaboration between us, while at the same time ensuring that each benefice retains its own identity and autonomy.

"As area dean I already have the privilege of knowing many people in the other parishes quite well, and I very much look forward to the deepening of our personal and inter-parish relationships."

The creation of ministry areas is a key part of the Church in Wales' 2020 Vision strategy for growth.

A spokesperson said: "They bring parishes under one team to help them work together and reach out to serve the whole community."

The service was held at St Iltyd's Church, Newcastle, on December 10.

Alison Young, CIW

Barry will be home to Wales' smallest theatre

WALES' smallest theatre could shortly be opening in Barry after getting support from the Vale planning committee.

Proposals for a magic theatre on Barry's Island Road had been recommended for refusal because of planning officers' concerns about the shopfront looking unused during daytime hours.

However, councillors over-turned the recommendation, asking officers to work closely with the applicants to ensure that the new theatre meets all necessary criteria to open with a temporary licence as a magic theatre.

Cllr Nic Hodges, who had asked the application to come to committee for debate rather than be decided by officers, welcomed the decision.

He said: "This is a unique application for a small magic theatre that can bring new acts and new vibrancy to Barry.

"I was concerned when I heard that officers recommended refusal, and I am glad that we have been able to find a way, fingers crossed, for them to get the permit to open.

"I am pleased to say that this was all done without hypnotising the committee.

"More seriously, if this application had not been granted, then I would have been worried that we would have lost this opportunity and be left with an empty shop instead - something that nobody wants.

"As Wales' largest town, it is a bit of fun for us to have Wales' smallest theatre."

Cllr Ian Johnson, also on the planning committee, added: "The Vale Council should be supportive of local entrepreneurs who want to open businesses, and provide them with the support to do so from all parts of the council. I hope they will be able to conjure up the appropriate conditions so that the theatre can open as soon as possible." AS

'Three days of Christmas' in Barry

WHY not try something different and be our guest at 'Three Days of Christmas' to remember the wonderful gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace and Saviour of sinners?

Barry Evangelical Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone to enjoy Christmas in their church family.

On Saturday, December 23 at 6pm, enjoy the family-friendly Christmas Lessons and

Carols and free Christmas supper.

They will sing everyone's favourite carols, read the true Christmas story from the Bible, and a buffet will follow at 7pm.

For enquiries, see Pastor Drew at agoodman@barryepc.org or text 07400 004139 to reserve a seat.

On Christmas Eve, be a guest at Sunday services at 11am and 6pm, and Christmas morning at 10am.

Visit www.barryepc.org for more information.

CS

Pontycymer Garw youth club launches

THE first project created using Bridgend County Borough's new Community Action Fund is a Garw Valley youth club for young people aged between 8 and 11 years of age. Some 65 children are reported to have signed up.

Based at the Halo Leisure Centre in Pontycymer, the youth club opened its doors for the first time officially last Friday, following a successful trial period.

The club runs every Friday evening with the first hour from 6pm to 7pm devoted to skates and scooters, with indoor ramps made available. From 7pm to 9pm it becomes an open youth club with football, arts and crafts, games, music and more.

The youth club has been developed, and will be run, by local volunteers.

Cllr Rod Shaw, who

represents the Pontycymer ward on Bridgend County Council (BCBC), said: "This is a community-driven project in every sense, and I am delighted that it has brought local people together in the planning and development of what we all feel is going to be a very valuable new facility for the Garw.

"When we asked for suggestions on how the funding could be best used, a youth club was by far the most popular idea. Before applying for funding we tested the water with a pilot scheme, and were amazed at how popular and successful it was."

Introduced by BCBC earlier this year and believed to be the first of its kind in Wales, the Community Action Fund enables each of the area's 54 elected members to apply for funding of up to £5,000 (£270,000 in total) which can be used to carry out improvements within their wards.



A family celebration on awards night.

COWBRIDGE RESTAURANT IN THE SPOTLIGHT ON BRITISH CURRY AWARDS EVENING



Mr Chowdhury and his wife Razia at the awards evening.

A COWBRIDGE curry house is celebrating after taking second place in the Welsh section of the British Curry awards.

The Shampán, in Eastgate, Cowbridge, was up against two other Welsh restaurants, one in Swansea and one in Llanelli.

As the Swansea entry (Rasoi Indian Kitchen) took first place, Shampán owner Zahin Chowdhury told The GEM that he was delighted to pick up an award that marked the Shampán as the best in the Cardiff area.

He said that the presentation had been a very grand occasion in late November at the Battersea Evolution in Battersea Park, one of London's premier venues with a capacity of up to 4,000.

He said: "After being nominated, we had to wait until the British Curry Awards had sent along a 'mystery shopper' and we were delighted when we went to London and received our award."

For more information on The Shampán, go to www.shampán-cowbridge.co.uk or telephone 01446 771682.



Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgangem.co.uk or call 01446 774484



Coping with Bereavement

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

The Vale Funeral Service: 'A TRADITION OF CARE'

POPULAR, established funeral directors in the heart of the community, Lyndsay Ellis and his wife Nicola exclusively care for loved ones and bereaved families at The Vale Funeral Service, based at 181 Court Road, Cadoston.

They are renowned for their personal and professional attention to detail, and for giving loved ones and their families a first class and impeccable service.

Lyndsay and Nicki are privileged to accommodate the well known former family name of W Spickett & Son, the oldest family Funeral Directors in Barry established in 1837.

An expert's advice could help to avoid any dispute

BRENDAN SWEENEY, of David Prosser & Co Solicitors, writes:

It is estimated that 60 per cent of the UK population does not have a Will.

A Will takes effect on your death, and is an instruction as to what is to happen to your estate.

Probate disputes and challenges to Wills are becoming a growth area, which often leads to substantial costs.

We now live in a world where family relationships are often very complex, and expert advice regarding the drafting of a Will is essential.

A professional advisor can also advise you in relation to inheritance tax, and how you plan to minimise potential liabilities to inheritance tax.

It is important that people are fully aware of their duties and

financial responsibilities when they make a Will, to ensure that they comply with the technicalities that are required to have a valid Will.

The cost of a professionally-drafted Will, after taking advice, is considerably less than the costs that can be incurred if there is a dispute regarding your financial affairs after your death.

Substantial costs can also be saved by taking professional advice early, and putting in place Powers of Attorney – whereby you appoint trusted people to make decisions about your property and financial affairs and health and welfare, if you lose capacity.

The people appointed are made fully aware of their rights and responsibilities.

together with their parent company Pigeons Of Cardiff.

Lyndsay explained: "We continue with our family ethos to serve our families to the highest of standards we are known for.

"From the moment you contact us, we will be there for you and will stay with you every step of the way during your difficult time.

"We aim to give care and compassion in dealing with the bereaved family requirements and appreciate that each funeral takes on a different role. No two funerals are the same, as each loved one deserves a personal tribute.

"It is a rare privilege to be a funeral director, to stand in a sensitive position at a crucial time in the midst of your family, knowing that the high standards of our service and reputation will help you through the most difficult time in your lives.

"We cannot make the pain from losing a loved one go away, but through our efforts, our hope is to make the journey of grief less lonely and perhaps a little easier."

"I can assure clients that we are always here to provide a 24-hour service, seven days a week, 52 weeks of the year, including bank Holidays and Christmas Day. There is always a member of our staff available to talk to.

"We are very pleased to have Ben Hartery, who is a valued and dedicated member of the Vale Funeral team. You can contact us on 01446 407962."

Family-run funeral service for the local community

ROBERT D Johnson Funeral Directors aims to offer local families, who require funeral services and bereavement care, the highest level of personal attention.

Already with a great breadth of experience in the industry, Robert Johnson opened Robert D Johnson Independent Funeral Directors at 29 Holton Road, Barry. Working alongside Robert, a fully-qualified and experienced independent funeral director, will be daughter Lisa who is the company's funeral arranger and, under her father's guidance, is

studying to achieve the industry's professional qualifications.

Robert is delighted that Lisa is helping him establish a 'family firm', providing Barriars with a personal and professional service.

With his experience and being focused on his local community, Robert feels he can deliver a truly personal service to ensure all funerals are tailored to a bereaved family's requirements and, just as importantly, to their budget.

The company can be contacted 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and Robert adds: "We will ensure that we are available at all times to meet a family's needs."

Companionship in difficult times

THE death of a loved one is one of life's most difficult experiences. The bereaved struggle with many intense and painful emotions, including depression, anger, guilt, and profound sadness.

Often, feeling isolated and alone in their grief, but having someone to lean on can help them through the grieving process.

We at April Care are able to offer specialist support from staff who have received training in bereavement.

Our staff know how to listen and offer companionship. Often at times, well-meaning people avoid talking about death or change the subject when the deceased person is mentioned. But our staff understand that the bereaved need to feel that their loss is acknowledged, it's not too terrible to talk about, and their loved one won't be forgotten. By listening compassionately, staff offer comfort and reassurance without minimizing the loss.

We are consistent in offering assistance, reassuring the grieving person that we will be there for them as long as it takes.

We can be here to

help, even with the smallest of things such as shopping for groceries or run errands, take care of housework, such as cleaning or laundry duties, arrange and attend support group

meetings with you, or even accompany you on walks.

We are able to offer extra support on special days too. Certain times and days of the year may be particularly hard, whether you are

grieving for a friend or family member. Holidays, family milestones, birthdays, and anniversaries often reawaken grief. We are sensitive on these occasions also, and we can be there for you.



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Pontyclun Funeral Services

AS part of our service as a funeral director, we are available to visit you in your home 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Our home visits are designed to make any funeral arrangements with you and your family for the funeral of your loved one, as well as providing the best support and advice available, including answering any questions that you may have.

Pontyclun Funeral Services is a small, but reputable, funeral director serving the residents of Pontyclun and

the surrounding areas of the south Wales valleys.

We have always strived to meet the needs of the families we serve, which recently included a full renovation of our funeral home on Clun Avenue in Pontyclun, which now includes modern facilities along with a spacious chapel of rest and visitation area.

We can help you through the process of making arrangements for a funeral that is personal to the requirements and needs of your family.

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- Respond promptly to your enquiries
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Telephone 01656 645921

E-Mail: brendansweeney@ davidprosser.co.uk

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David Prosser & Co is the trading name of DP Law Limited.



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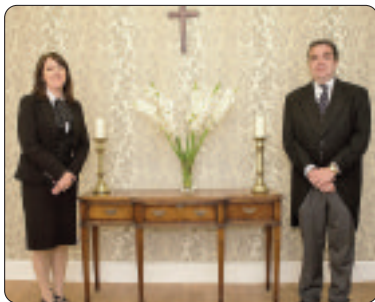
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Email: info@pontyclunfuneralservices.com

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AT Parkman Funeral Home, we are an experienced, independent, family-run and family-owned business.

Our funeral director Huw Parkman has worked in the funeral profession, gaining a wealth of experience with the Co-operative Funeralcare and Green Willow Funerals.

Our vast experience covers many aspects of a funeral from traditional through to natural burials, including religious and non-religious ceremonies.

We can also offer direct cremations and eco-friendly funerals. Our pricing is clear and we advertise this online and in our office window.

As we are not on

commission or target driven, this shows in our transparent prices.

We have signed the 'Fair Funerals Pledge' (fairfuneralscampaign.org.uk) which is an organisation campaigning for all funeral directors to advertise their prices clearly, with no hidden costs.

We are also members of the Good Funeral Guild and The Association of Green Funeral Directors, and are also recommended by The Natural Death Centre and work closely with Veterans' Bereavement Support.

We serve all parts of south Wales. We pride ourselves on creating a completely professional and personalised service, unique to each family we serve.

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Coping with Bereavement

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Passmores will offer a sympathetic and efficient service to the bereaved

WHEN a person dies, someone, usually a family member, has the responsibility of dealing with that person's estate.

This may include establishing what assets and liabilities that person had and working out whether a 'Grant of Probate' will be needed to administer the estate.

This is a daunting task under normal circumstances, but for many people it may feel a great deal more burdensome, mixed with feelings of grief and distress.

Usually the first thing to do is to establish whether there is a will in existence and to make a note of the fact that the estate is to be distributed in accordance with that will.

A will may be held with the solicitor that drew it up or in a safe custody box with a bank.

A personal representative is usually appointed in the will to deal with the deceased person's estate, also known as an executor.

A Grant of Probate is issued by the Probate Registry, upon the submission of certain information based on the person's estate.

It gives the personal representative authority to deal with the

deceased person's estate and allows them to access money held in banks, building societies or other investments.

It also authorises the personal representative to sell the deceased person's home.

Once all funds have been collected in and all commitments have been paid, the personal representative may distribute the estate to the beneficiaries, as set out in the will – or if no will, then in accordance with the rules of intestacy, which are a set of rules setting out who is to benefit.

The personal representative may also have to deal with the payment of inheritance tax, if the estate exceeds the current threshold.

Other responsibilities may include defending a claim against the estate, should this arise.

Passmores offers a sympathetic and efficient service when dealing with probate and estate administration.

If you live or work in Barry, Cardiff or the Vale of Glamorgan and would like further information, ask to speak to our specialist Carli Evans on 01446 721000 or ce@passmores.com today.

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dignified send off.

We offer our Mercedes cortege fleet or we can source specialised transport.

If you are the sort of person who likes to plan ahead and put their affairs in order, we offer affordable funeral plans.

Hopefully, you will not need us over the festive period and we trust you have an enjoyable seasonal break.

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LOSING a family member or someone close is always very difficult and during this emotional time, arrangements need to be made and important decisions taken.

This can be a daunting prospect for many. At Anthony and Jarvie, we offer a warm and friendly environment in which to discuss these important matters with experienced practitioners.

After a loved one has died, it can be helpful and reassuring to have someone on hand who understands the legal processes involved. Probate is often long, complex and the duties of an executor/administrator to

correctly deal with an estate can be very onerous.

Taking legal advice after losing a loved one can prevent mistakes being made, provide you with invaluable advice, relieve pressure and ensure that all legal and tax matters are dealt with correctly and promptly.

Dying without a will in place does not guarantee that your loved ones will inherit your estate, even if you are married.

Anthony and Jarvie offer a comprehensive will-making service which covers all aspects of will-making, including complex family situations and if needed, inheritance tax advice, providing you with peace of mind for you and your family and your assets once your will is in place.

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Remembering loved ones



The sanctum columbarium in Barry.

AS part of its plans to provide more affordable services to the people of Barry, Barry Town Council has this year bought a sanctum columbarium which has been positioned in the new extension within the cemetery.

The columbarium is a large circular structure where the ashes of your loved ones can be placed behind a marble plaque as an alternative to having them placed in

the ground. You have the choice to purchase a flower container to be located alongside the plaque and you can choose the wording for the plaque with pictures if you wish.

While at the moment the columbarium stands alone, there are plans to have the area around it landscaped with a variety of plants and grasses, including herbs, to create a relaxing area for you to sit and remember your loved ones.

Telephone 01446 704920, where staff will be happy to help you.

Barry Town Council



MERTHYR DYFAN CEMETERY

Barry Town Council can offer a sanctum columbarium.

A stunning 32 vault circular memorial.

Anyone requiring further information, please contact Barry Town Council on 01446 704920

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Coping with Bereavement

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Build-A-Bear supports bereaved children



The smile says it all.

CHILDREN who have suffered a bereavement recently were invited to a special evening at Cardiff's Build-A-Bear Workshop where they could choose and dress their own individual bear to take home.

It was organised thanks to a partnership between the Build-A-

Bear Workshop in St David's shopping centre and Barnardo's Cymru, which runs the Cardiff and Vale Child and Family Bereavement Service.

The service supports families who have experienced a significant bereavement, trauma or loss. It uses therapeutic strategies such as one to one work, play therapy and creative group work to explore thoughts and feelings and help families manage their loss.

Barnardo's chief executive, Javed Khan, said: "Christmas can often be a difficult time for the vulnerable children, young people, carers and parents we support each year.

"It is wonderful that Build-A-Bear Workshop has given them the opportunity to create some special Christmas memories. We are also really grateful that they will be helping to raise money towards our services."

Mel & Ron Watkins funeral Services

MEL and Ron Watkins Funeral Services, Pencoed held their first Christmas Memorial Service on December 8 at Salem Chapel, Pencoed.

The service was to help remind families who have lost loved ones about the warmth of shared Christmases past, of the brightest Christmases to come and the importance of fellowship and support; and an occasion for people to come together and remember loved ones at this special time of year.

The service included placing a memorial star on a Christmas tree or lighting a candle, and joining Cowbridge Male Voice choir in singing

carols.

With wonderful performances from Cowbridge Male Voice Choir and soloist Claire Edwards, the service was led by the Reverend Richard Roberts with readings from Amy Watkins, Russell Lewis and Beryl Vaughan. There was also a collection on the evening for local charity Y Bont, and over £500 was raised for this worthy cause.

Ron, Alan, Amy and Aled wish to thank everyone involved in helping make their first Christmas Memorial Service such a success. With special thanks to Rev Richard Roberts, Rhianon Williams, the Friends of Salem and Pencoed Town Council, it's hoped that another service will be held next Christmas.



Mel & Ron Watkins

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Barry Round Table hopes to make organisations' Christmas wishes a reality

BARRY Round Table, the group behind the Barry Santa sleigh and Barry charity calendar has set out its plans to make local organisations wishes a reality at the start of 2018.

Santa Christmas Wish is now in its second year after giving away over £750 worth of items to local groups at the start of 2017.

Items delivered included tea and coffee, cricket balls, first aid kits and a printer, all of which have helped to support the work of local organisations in Barry.

Barry Round Table has opened up applications to local groups who can apply for up to £50 worth of equipment or items that must benefit, support and

make a difference to local individuals or the community of Barry.

Successful applicants will be presented with their items in January 2018 during Barry Round Table's annual presentation night.

Barry Round Table chairman Anthony Price said: "It's great for us to begin 2018 by supporting our local community through the funds raised on the Barry Santa sleigh and Barry charity calendar.

"The equipment we donated at the start of this year has already made a huge impact to local groups in Barry and we would urge others to come forward with their requests."

Applications for Santa's Christmas Wish close on December 26 and must be submitted via www.barrysantasleigh.co.uk. **RTS**

It's better by bus on 'Black Friday'

CARDIFF Bus is helping Christmas and New Year's revellers get home safely this festive season.

The bus operator is calling on party goers to ensure they choose a safe, convenient and value for money travel choice after enjoying the Christmas and New Year's festivities.

Cardiff Bus is supporting customers this festive season with its comprehensive network of services running across the city from early to late, seven days a week, including all night buses to selected areas.

It is also offering reduced fare prices on 'Black Friday', December 22, with Cardiff and Barry Day to Go tickets just £3, Day to

Go Plus priced at £4, and a Group Day to Go ticket for five people for £10.

Commercial manager at Cardiff Bus Gareth Stevens said: "At Cardiff Bus we recognise that thousands of people will be enjoying a very merry Christmas across our network.

"As well as our Black Friday ticket offer we have regular night buses to most parts of the city, and for those not out that late, we have buses to all parts of the city from early to late seven days a week.

"Once again this year our free New Year's Eve night buses will also be returning, to ensure everyone can welcome in the New Year hassle-free. "All our timetables are available online and through social media channels to provide our passengers with the

information they need this December."

Their call for passengers to plan their travel in advance was echoed by South Wales Police Chief Inspector Ian Randall.

Chief Inspector Randall said: "We want people to come to Cardiff to enjoy the Christmas season and what the city has to offer.

"Our focus is very much on encouraging people to enjoy the season sensibly and in a safe and secure surroundings.

"Throughout this festive period we will be working closely with our partner agencies to ensure that everybody has a good time and that they get home safely. As always, we would encourage people to plan their journey home in advance."

'10 reasons to join Glamorgan Voluntary Services'

HERE are 10 reasons to join Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) for community groups operating in the Vale, said a GVS spokesman:

1. Become part of a stronger collective third sector by joining the biggest voluntary network in the Vale of Glamorgan.

2. Get priority access to its practical services e.g. design, printing, photocopying, free equipment loan.

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AS

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgangem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

'Come up with the goods' indoor traders tell council

THE future of Bridgend Indoor Market, which dates back to 1837, is in danger because of high rents, and unsympathetic administration by the county borough council, a trader has claimed.

Martin Nagle, who has run stalls there for 20 years, told The GEM that 10 stalls remained currently empty, others are struggling and the council appears unsympathetic to their plight.

He explained: "The market has about 10 out of 26 stalls which are unoccupied at the moment."

"There are probably a number of reasons for this, but the main reason is the high rents charged by the landlords."

"The market is administered by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC). As a result of our representations they carried out a review into the operation of the market."

"Not much came out of this review, but an offer to all existing stallholders of a 15 per cent reduction in the basic rent from December 1 to March 31 2018."

"This was offered to us at the end of October and we were advised to 'take it or leave it' as they would not enter into any negotiations or discussion about it."

That offer did not include a

reduction for the additional air conditioning charge.

Martin said that traders reluctantly felt obliged to accept the offer, but there was a sting in the tail.

"We were expecting the reduction to be implemented in the weekly rent paid in arrears on December 8."

"We were astonished to be told at 5.59pm on that day, following a phone call in the morning to the market manager, that the reduction would be paid as a one-off payment at the end of the financial year in April 2018."

"This was never told to us – or even hinted at in the meeting with a council official in October, or in any subsequent emails or telephone conversations since then."

Martin said he felt it was unfair of the council and hopes they will consider reversing their decision.

"Many of us had made decisions about our immediate financial planning on the basis of receiving this discount."

Martin had spent some money on advertising in the pre-Christmas run-up.

He added: "Most businesses here are struggling and in a perilous position. Six have closed this year."

The GEM approached Bridgend County Borough Council for a response, but at the time of going to press had not received one. We hope to publish a reply next week.

Youngsters are in tune!



Sing Winning Choir Cor Heol Y March

STANWELL School offered its theatre and studios to Music in the Vale for its annual competition for young singers and instrumentalists, aged eight to 23.

More than 70 performers delighted the audience and adjudicators with their performances and contrasting programmes.

The adjudicators were Helen Knight, who is a member of the examining panel of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. Owen Webb studied at the Royal College of Music and Drama and is following a distinguished career.

James Walker studies at the Royal Academy of Music and has played with many orchestras including the London Philharmonic. David Shillaw

recently retired after 38 years with the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

The performers had very experienced accompanists Sally Tarlton, Emma Arscott and Rhiannon Pritchard.

The winners were: singers – George Curnow (senior), Matthew Daly (young senior), Megan Jones (intermediate), Rhianna Hogg (young intermediate), Sofia Easterby (junior) and choir Cor Heol y March.

Instrumentalists Ben Tarlton (cello), Tomos Boyles (piano), Samuel Finch (flute), Heledd Wyn Newton (harp) and Stefanie Maurer (guitar).

A winners' concert will take place at Stanwell School on Sunday, January 28 at 2pm. Tickets £5 may be purchased in advance or on the door.

Visit www.musicinthevale.org.uk for more information.



Instrumental senior winner, Ben Tarlton.



Instrumental junior winner, Stefanie Maurer

Open cast site goes back to nature



An image of the area from Google Maps. At its widest point, the lake is approximately 765 yards (700 metres) from shore to shore.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Cllr David added: "The void has become a lake that measures about 765 yards (700 metres) at its widest point, while trees and shrubs have been planted and large areas have been sprayed with grass seed so it will soon be a much greener site that residents can enjoy and where nature can flourish."

Cllr David added: "Special care was taken during the clearing works as the site contains a number of protected species including great crested newt, dormice and otters. The

future plans will ensure that the long-term management of their habitat is not only maintained, but enhanced."

A BCBC spokesperson added: "The restoration is costing around £5.5m and is being financed by the money in the restoration fund that was set up by the site operator as part of the final phase of coaling. Neither council is contributing any funding towards the restoration."

"The Coal Authority is overseeing the distribution of funds to ensure that the works are carried out within budget."

AM questions health board payout to former chief executive

SOUTH Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies has demanded answers from Abertawe Bro Morgannwg Health Board – after it emerged its former chief executive received a six-figure pay out on leaving the role.

According to the health board – Paul Roberts stood down from the role in March to "pursue other healthcare roles". He

had previously been temporarily replaced as a result of illness.

It has emerged he received £113,213 for the termination of his employment – plus an additional £50,000 payment in lieu of notice.

Pointing out the health board made a £36.4m overspend in 2016-17 Mr Davies said patients would want to know why redundancy payments were to someone who had supposedly stood down voluntarily.

Mr Davies said: "Many people will

struggle to understand how someone who has voluntarily left their job can be in line for a pay-out of more than the Prime Minister's salary."

"The financial management of ABMU Health Board has rightly come in for serious criticism – and with decisions like this it is no wonder."

"It is quite astonishing that they are overspending by £35m – and at the same time paying redundancy to people who are supposedly leaving to take on other jobs elsewhere."

"I will be writing to the health board to express my concern – and ask them to justify their decision."

"If Mr Roberts tendered his resignation there should have been no need for a pay-out. It is clear there are serious questions for the health board to answer."

An ABMU spokesperson said: "Paul Roberts left his position of ABMU chief executive earlier this year by mutual agreement with the health board. The settlement was part of that agreement and it was formally agreed by our remuneration committee."

Award for Vale AM from Muslim body



The Vale AM receives her award.

ONE of this year's Muslim Council of Wales Award recipients was Vale of Glamorgan AM, Jane Hutt.

Recognised for her contribution in the third sector as founding coordinator of Welsh Women's Aid, South Glamorgan County Councillor serving the Riverside ward and the longest serving minister in the Welsh Government, Jane Hutt thanked the Muslim Council of Wales for the honour and pledged to continue to serve the community.

Meryl named winner of NFU recipe book



Meryl Davies receiving her copy of Countryside Kitchen: Farm, Food, Fork at the Glamorgan GEM offices.

MERYL Davies from Porthcawl is the lucky winner of the recent competition run by The GEM to bag a copy of the NFU recipe book Countryside Kitchen: Farm, Food, Fork.

Mrs Davies successfully identified farmer Adam Henson as a regular presenter on the BBC television

programme *Countryside*. She is shown here with GEM editorial staffer Andy Johnstone receiving her book.

The GEM wishes to thank the many entrants to the competition, and the NFU for supplying a copy of *Countryside Kitchen: Farm, Food, Fork*.

Countryside Kitchen can be bought via the NFU Countryside website countrysideonline.co.uk for £15.95 plus P&P.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ward Councillors' surgery

THE Labour councillors for Buttrills, Cadoc, Castletand and Court Wards, Susan Lloyd-Selby, Owen Griffiths, Anne Moore, Neil Moore, Pamela Drake, Bronwen Brooks and Sandra Perkes will hold their monthly advice surgery on Saturday, December 16 in the Small Community Room, Barry Library, King Square from 10am – 11am. No appointment is necessary.

Boxing Day swim

WHITMORE Bay Voluntary Lifeguards SLSC will be holding their annual Boxing Day swim on Tuesday, December 26. We will be meeting outside the lifeguard station at the end of the Western Shelter at 11.30am.

CALLING ALL SCHOOLS!

We want to showcase your nativity plays this Christmas - send your pictures and a small write-up to editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk.

A 'Christmas first' for Wales, and it's in the Vale



IMAGES by JOHN O'BEIRNE

The Vale of Glamorgan Mayor, Coun Janice Charles, attended the Christmas party at the Memorial Hall which entertained 170 people who receive care in the Vale. She described the atmosphere on the day as 'fabulous'.



THE Memo was full of laughter and fun on November 28, when a Christmas party was held for 170 people who all who receive care in the Vale.

The afternoon included a performance by the children of Ysgol St Curig, a 'decorate your table' competition, party games, magicians, face painting, and singing and dancing by Tony Kinsey.

The Mayor of the Vale, Cllr Janice Charles, judged the table competition, which was sponsored by local entrepreneur Simon Llewellyn of Hot Diggidy Dog sauce company. It was won by Springbank Nursing Home.

Cllr Charles said: "I was delighted to attend the event and I would like to thank everyone who has put in so much work to make it a huge success."

"The atmosphere and the costumes were fabulous, the tables too. It was very hard to choose a winner."

Gillian Baranski, Chief Inspector of the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales, also attended and was reported to have been



Rachel Kemp of College Fields and Keri Llewellyn of All Care who thought up the event.

impressed with the concept. Care Communities Acting Together has eight care homes, three domiciliary care agencies and an extra care building in its group and is set to have further members in the new year.

Spokesperson for the group, Rachel Kemp, said: "Working together we have been able to achieve an amazing afternoon for the people we care for. We would like to thank all of our generous sponsors for their support."

"It is wonderful to see collaboration that results in such a positive way."



James Franco's telling of the making of *The Room* is anything but a Disaster...

THERE are many films that can be described as being the worst film ever made; however, only one has adopted that mantle and embraced it, and that is Tommy Wiseau's *The Room*.

A film that is genuinely awful, it has nonetheless picked up a cult following (and made something of a hero out of director/writer/actor Wiseau) and now the making of the film is chronicled in *The Disaster Artist*.

Directed by James Franco, it tells of a meeting between Greg (Dave Franco) and Tommy (James Franco) at an acting class. When the pair move to Los Angeles to try and further their careers, Tommy uses his savings to make his passion project, *The Room*, after Greg suggests the only way they will star in a film will be if they make it themselves.

However, the finished product is less than impressive, but suddenly takes on a life of its own, one neither Greg or Tommy are prepared for...

There's a point, about two-thirds of the way through *The Disaster Artist* where one of the

cast members of *The Room*, after a morning of working in 100 degree heat with no air conditioning, shuts down the grumblings of her cast mates by saying that "...even the worst day on a movie set is better than the best day anywhere else."

And that is what the core of *The Disaster Artist* is about – the magic of cinema, the lure of stardom and success. Yes, it's a story about one man's unwitting folly, a negative that is turned (somehow) into a positive, but James Franco's sympathetically-told film is one that strives to show the good rather than laugh at someone doing nothing more than chasing their dream.

The real Tommy Wiseau is so mysterious that calling him an enigma doesn't really suffice – indeterminate age, indeterminate nationality (despite his thick eastern European accent, he says he's from New Orleans) and a man of indeterminate means (estimates put *The Room* as costing Wiseau personally \$6 million). He's a character ripe for poking fun at, but what's so wonderful both about James Franco's performance and the



by GARETH JAMIESON

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way he's written, is that they get to the man beneath the mystery.

He's just a guy who wants to be an actor, determined to achieve his goal no matter what, and while Franco nails Wiseau's off-kilter personality, he never strays into lampooning him. A scene that features Wiseau interrupting a Hollywood producer's dinner in a fancy restaurant runs the gamut from being hilarious to heartbreaking, beautifully conveyed by Franco's superb performance, as he is given some harsh truths.

Opposite him, his brother Dave delivers a superb turn as Greg, the young man caught up in the hurricane that is

Wiseau, his dreams of making it in the film business masking any concerns he (and his mother) may have about Wiseau's intentions or his lack of transparency.

The pair's arc treads a familiar path – the far more conventional Greg making a fair fist of his move to Los Angeles, while the less-conventional Wiseau struggles, leading to conflict – but the pair's performances infuse the characters, and the film overall, with a sense of tenderness, just two guys doing what they can to achieve success doing what they love.

Franco's profile means that the likes of Seth Rogen, Alison Brie, Zac Efron, Ari Graynor and more all pop up in roles big and small, and they all enrich the film, but this hangs on the central turns of the Franco brothers and they deliver superbly.

The direction is excellent, low-key and intimate but one that lets the story drive proceedings, while the recreations of the scenes of *The Room* are perfect (the credits highlighting just how close Franco has got to the original).

Scott Neustadter and Michael H Weber's script knows to play for laughs, but underpins it

all with a solid foundation of making the laughs feel incidental to the story. As the film slips into the final third, and the fall comes before the pride, there's more emphasis on drama as things don't go to plan, but it all flows naturally and come the conclusion, as a victory is snatched from the jaws of defeat, you can't help but feel pleased for Tommy and Greg.

It says much of this film that the overriding feeling is one of joy – rather than concentrate on the shortcomings of the source material, *The Disaster Artist* revels in the making of it and the enthusiasm of people striving to achieve their dreams no matter what, in what is a truly engaging piece of work.

VERDICT: Amusing and uplifting, James Franco's telling of the making of *The Room* is a real success, *The Disaster Artist* compelling and hugely satisfying. The performances are excellent, the tone pitch-perfect, and its lack of mockery makes it hugely endearing, a real triumph of a film. *Highly recommended.*

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The Room* (2003); *Sunset Boulevard* (1950).

A Winter's tail: shocking reasons people why give up a dog revealed

"HE wasn't a vegetarian" or "didn't like being dressed up".

These are some of the reasons given to Dogs Trust, which is braced for an influx of unwanted dogs, from owners wishing to give up their pet.

Dogs Trust Bridgend is bracing itself for the post-Christmas influx of unwanted dogs and is asking the public to remember the charity's slogan 'A dog is for life, not just for Christmas' after a year of bizarre reasons offered by people giving up their dog.

The Pen-y-Fai-based Rehoming Centre received 18 calls a day from people looking to give up their dogs in the month following Christmas last year.

Reasons over 2017 included:

- I won a free holiday and I couldn't take my dogs with me
- I'm a vegetarian but he always wanted to eat meat
- I got him as a secret Santa present
- She was too friendly and wanted to greet every dog and human we met on a walk
- He was panting too much
- He didn't like it when we played dress up

• She sleeps in her own bed all night; I thought she would want to sleep in my bed.

To bring the message home the charity has created a video called "Why I left you" with a twist which highlights the carefree attitude that some people display towards dog ownership.

The charity's slogan has proved just as meaningful today as it was when first coined nearly 40 years ago as a new survey reveals almost 10 per cent of dog owners in Wales spend less than two weeks researching before buying a



Dasher does not wish it could be Christmas every day. Last Christmas, he was handed into Dogs Trust.

dog and 7 per cent confessed to buying a dog simply because it was a cute accessory.

The survey also suggested that one in 15 people admit to buying or receiving a dog as a Christmas gift.

Following 593 calls in the weeks following Christmas last year from people unable to care for their dogs, Dogs Trust Bridgend are preparing themselves as they expect to take in many dogs in the weeks following the festive period.

Angela Wetherall, Rehoming Centre Manager at Dogs Trust Bridgend, explains: "In the weeks following Christmas last year, we received almost 600 calls from owners wanting to give up their dog."

"That is so sad as dogs deserve to be treated as a member of the family. They aren't disposable commodities; they are a huge commitment and should be for life."

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The crafters have made an upcycled dog bed.

Ty Hafan's upcycling crafters have special gifts to appeal to Christmas shoppers

CHILDREN'S hospice charity Ty Hafan is upcycling items donated to its shops to create a stylish range of homeware, gifts and accessories – just in time for Christmas.

Instead of simply selling on pre-owned items through their charity shops, the charity's retail team has created a new label, Handcrafted by Ty Hafan, which includes Christmas decorations, furniture and accessories, all lovingly crafted, hand-painted and sewn by a team of volunteer 'elves'.

The inspiration for the new label came from project manager Penny Collins, who has worked for the charity for five years.

"I was working in the charity's retail department and noticed we had some donated stock and materials which could not be sold in our shops because of damage or marks," she said.

"As I've always been a keen crafter, I couldn't bear to see all these fabrics and items going to waste. I could also spot all these opportunities to make more money for the charity. So I decided to do something about it."

Penny scoured the charity's warehouse and hundreds of bags of donated items to find the perfect materials and sourced discounted chalk paints and tools from her contacts in the industry.

"By giving them a new lease of life and transforming these discarded treasures into decorative items or pieces of shabby chic furniture, we could open



Penny Collins with vintage bunting.

up a new revenue stream for the charity," she said.

"For example, I found some original Liberty fabric at our warehouse which was slightly marked and could not be re-sold. Using a bit of creativity and a needle and thread, we have now turned this into luxury vintage bunting, which could retail on the high street for around £20 each."

The new upcycled range, which has been branded 'Handcrafted by Ty Hafan', will be available at the charity's Abergavenny Emporium, Cardiff Emporium and Penarth shop from December.

Volunteers, members of staff, corporate supporters and even families supported by the hospice have been

happy to get involved to help this exciting new project, with so-called 'craftermoons' turning out an impressive collection of creative Christmas decorations, bespoke furniture and stylish accessories.

You can even pick up a present for your pet, such as a quirky 'woofachief' or a comfy dog bed made from woolly jumpers.

"It's a creative way to support the charity, raising money and awareness," said Penny.

"You can pick up unique, high quality items for a fraction of what they'd be sold for on the high street, while raising money so the hospice can continue supporting children with life-limiting conditions and their families across Wales."

THE Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing and Hedging Society held the final meeting for 2017 on December 6 at the Six Bells Inn, Penmark.

The chairman, Andrew Studley, introduced and thanked Mr and Mrs Richard Anthony who have made a site available at their Sealand Farm, Wick for the 2018 Ploughing Match.

The match will take place in September 2018 and the exact date will be confirmed early in the new year. It is hoped that the event in September will also stage steam engine ploughing and horse ploughing.

The chairman reported a very successful year for the society, starting with the hedge-cutting event in February, followed by the ploughing match in March – the first time the society has held a ploughing match so early in the year.

The reason for the change of date was to facilitate the All Wales Ploughing Championships held at Boverton on the usual September dates.

In April the society staged a tractor run in support of the Ed Evans Foundation. The chairman thanked all the sponsors for their support over the past years, noting that every year the numbers grow – which bodes well for the future of the society.

The secretary, Sarah Radcliffe, reminded members that membership fees were now due: £10 per year or £40 for five years' membership.

The secretary hoped that in the future more members of the society would volunteer their services on the match days, as there had been a lack of support and help in some sections. The secretary was asked to find out details and costs of the society purchasing its own tent for future events.



From left: Basil George and Andrew Studley with the committee.

The treasurer, Rhys Morgan, gave his report on the accounts and stated that the society was in a sound state, reminding members that it was important to have a sound balance in the bank to cover any shortfall that may occur due to a wet match day.

He also pointed out that the society must be mindful of the support which comes from the public at the gates on the match days.

It was suggested that entry forms for events such as hedge-cutting and ploughing matches should all be submitted seven clear days prior to each event, and no entries should be taken on the event day. This would enable the organisation of all events to run more smoothly. These details would be printed on the entry forms.

The items to be discussed at the society's next meeting would be: purchase of a tent; purchase of flags; membership badges; prizes; and the number of classes in the ploughing match.

For information about the society and its planned events, contact either the chairman on 07980 921990 or the secretary on 07976 950680.

Basil George

Vale sends 21,000 shoe boxes for children



Just some of the 21,000 shoe boxes filled by people in the Vale.

LOCAL volunteers have been hard at work in recent weeks to prepare shoe boxes to be sent on journeys across the world as part of Operation Christmas Child.

The Samaritan's Purse Project sends shoe boxes full of gifts to children in some of the world's poorest nations, in order that they will have a present to open at Christmas.

Across the Vale, schools, churches and community groups have been putting together shoe boxes full of gifts to donate to Operation Christmas Child, which have then been sorted in a local depot kindly provided by Edwards Coaches.

This year, the local group collected 21,000 shoe boxes which were sent to children in Albania, Belarus and Romania.

Local Operation Christmas Child co-ordinator Tony McCarthy said: "It is always truly humbling to see how many volunteers in this area contribute to this project every year, whether it's donating a shoebox full of presents, or lending a hand in the warehouse to sort and prepare the boxes for their voyage."

"At this time of year it can be easy to forget that there are children in the world who live with few to no amenities and could never imagine receiving

gifts for Christmas.

"Seeing the joy on their face as they receive their box is the most moving, heart-warming sight that I have ever experienced and I thank everyone who has given their time to help Operation Christmas Child 2017."

Vale MP Alun Cairns visited Mr McCarthy and the other volunteers at the local sorting depot to lend a hand with sorting boxes to be sent to Romania.

He said: "Every year so many volunteers in and around the Vale dedicate their time to ensuring that a child thousands of miles away has a gift to open at

Christmas.

"The sheer volume of boxes that have been donated is testament to just how generous our local community is. Hundreds of thousands of children in some of the world's poorest countries will be given a brilliant reason to smile this Christmas and that is completely down to those who have donated gifts and volunteered to sort them. Well done to all!"

For more information on how you can contribute to Operation Christmas Child, visit www.samaritan's-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/

TB, or not TB, that is the question for Welsh farmers

THE Farmers' Union of Wales has welcomed the announcement by the Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs, Lesley Griffiths, that TB eradication targets for Wales as a whole and interim targets for each TB region have now been established.

If achieved, these targets would see Wales become officially TB-free between 2036 and 2041.

Dr Hazel Wright,

FUW senior policy officer said: "Other countries, such as New Zealand, Ireland and England have established bovine TB eradication programmes which set target dates for being TB free and the FUW has consistently highlighted this over the past year."

"Having a target date for Wales to be officially TB free provides clarity on the process and focuses the eradication programme. More importantly, it provides accountability and allows the industry to evaluate whether the strategy is working."

Anne Birkett

BRECON CARREG CARDIFF BAY RUN RETURNS FOR 2018

THE Brecon Carreg Cardiff Bay Run will return in 2018 to give thousands of runners a unique challenge at Wales' fastest growing 10K race.

Around 6,000 runners will take on an unchanged course around the Welsh capital's historic Bay on March 25, 2018.

Brecon Carreg have come on board as title sponsor to support a second event in the new Run 4 Wales 10K Series alongside the recently revealed Brecon Carreg Barry Island 10K and ABP Newport Wales 10K.

Run 4 Wales chief executive Matt Newman said: "The Brecon Carreg Cardiff Bay Run has

become one of the most popular events on the Run 4 Wales calendar, offering runners a perfect opportunity to take on their first 10K or set a new personal best on an iconic course around the Bay."

The route takes in all of Cardiff Bay's famous landmarks, starting and finishing in Roald Dahl Plass and passing the Wales Millennium Centre, Mermaid Quay, the Pierhead Building, Senedd, Porth Teigr and the Cardiff Bay Barrage.

Official lead charity Cystic Fibrosis Trust will again offer the chance to take on 10K for a great cause. To join Team CF and help beat cystic fibrosis for good, head over to www.cardiffbayrun.co.uk/#section

-charities.

Cystic Fibrosis senior events development manager Holly Matthews commented: "We are investing in cutting edge research, supporting clinical care, and campaigning tirelessly on the issues that matter, but we need your help."

"Cystic Fibrosis Trust are proud to be the lead charity partner of the Cardiff Bay Run again in 2018 and invite you to join them on the day to run with Team CF. Running with Team CF will help us make a difference for thousands of people with cystic fibrosis in the UK, and their families and carers."

Entries are now open. Find out more at www.cardiffbayrun.co.uk

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgangem.co.uk



HEB donates Christmas gifts to Ty Hafan

HOME Education Barry (HEB) celebrated the end of its first year with a Christmas party and a visit by Santa.

A spokeswoman explained: "HEB members are all home educators in and around the Barry area who meet every Monday from 11am to 3pm at Colcot Community Centre.

"We offer support and friendship to those thinking about home education and to those involved in home education.

"We celebrated the end of our first year (we started in June 2017) with a Christmas party and a visit from Santa. "Instead of Santa giving the children

gifts we gave 'Your Santa' gifts for the children at Ty Hafan.

"We raised £156 with our Christmas raffle and would like to thank all those that donated raffle prizes, including Quasar Barry, Coconuts, Tan y Hyde, Coffee Bay No.5, Supa Jump, Planet Gymnastics, Kelly Wick, Jo's Beauty, Libbits, KidiPics.com and everyone that helped.

"All proceeds help pay towards the hire of the hall and learning resources for our group.

"If you are thinking about 'home ed' and would like any help or support come and say hello or email us at he.barry@yahoo.com."

HEB-HEB-HUZZAH! The group AT a Christmas party and a visit by Santa. Instead of giving the children presents, gifts were donated to Ty Hafan. Image by 'A Year in Barry'/Kevin Moore Photography.

NRW insists it has the expertise to examine plant at Barry docks

NATURAL Resources Wales has strongly refuted the suggestion it does not have the expertise to monitor the Biomass UK No 2 Ltd site at Barry docks.

The Welsh Government-sponsored body – its responsibilities include acting as a regulator to protect the environment – had come under fire from Plaid Cymru councillors in the Vale.

Following NRW's announcement that it was minded to grant an environmental permit to Biomass UK No 2 Ltd, the chairman of the environmental and economic scrutiny committee, Cllr Vincent Bailey, invited the organisation to attend a meeting.

Plaid councillors Millie Collins and Steffan Wiliam took the opportunity to put questions to the NRW representative.

Cllr Collins sought assurances from NRW over monitoring and safety and Cllr Wiliam, who was unhappy with the response, said: "It's obvious from your answers that NRW has neither the expertise nor the capacity to monitor

by GEM REPORTER GOT A STORY? Call us on 01446 774484 or email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

even the recent blaze in Llandow, let alone the issue of dredging and dumping in the Bristol Channel, and certainly not this incinerator."

While questioning NRW's representative, Cllr Wiliam highlighted what he believes is a potential conflict of interest, saying: "NRW sells biomass. Therefore, this incinerator is a potential new customer of NRW who therefore have a financial interest in approving this.

"When such serious doubts are cast upon your ability to monitor, as well as your potential financial interest, it's clear that NRW is unfit to decide on the granting of the licence."

Following the meeting, Cllr Wiliam reiterated his doubts relating to NRW's ability to monitor the plant.

He said it was Cllr Nic Hodges who raised the issue of the use of draining tanks as a safety measure, and not NRW.

He said: "This begs the question, what else have they missed?"

But Nadia De Longhi, the operations manager for Natural Resources Wales, insisted NRW was examining all the relevant material and had the expertise required to monitor the site.

She explained: "All our decisions on permit applications are made after analysing all relevant facts, evidence and data.

"At this stage, there is no evidence that the plant cannot operate to legal and environmental standards. The purpose of this latest consultation is to give people an opportunity to provide any evidence we have not seen or considered so far.

"There is no conflict of interest as the plant is not going to burn biomass but chipped waste wood from household and industrial sources, like doors and fence panels.

"Regarding the tank, it is not a significant change to the overall proposal and it has no impact on the overall dispersion of any emissions.

"We strongly disagree that NRW doesn't have the expertise or capacity to monitor the site effectively."

Council 'looks at parking strategy'

THE Vale Council is working with independent technical consultants on developing a new parking strategy for the county.

The strategy will set out principles for addressing a number of issues including provision of residents only and other controlled parking, parking enforcement, the management and security of the Council's car parks, coach parking at resorts, and the potential for generating revenue to help fund the Vale's transport infrastructure through parking charges.

Miles Punter, Director of Environment, said: "Some of our residents' most common concerns relate to parking issues.

"With ever increasing car numbers we must find the most efficient use of

space we can and this will only be possible through a coherent and strategic approach.

"Given the Council's current budgetary position, generating revenue that can help support our transport and highways services will obviously be part of the discussion.

"We will be looking closely at the approach of other local authorities and in particular at successful examples of managing town centre parking."

Consultation with key stakeholders, including local traders, will begin early in the New Year and it is anticipated that a report setting out the principles for a new parking strategy will be presented to the Council's cabinet in spring 2018.

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Strictly Cymru dance tourney provides unique opportunity



LEONARD Cheshire Disability is inviting disabled dancers to take part in a dance competition 'Strictly Cymru'.

This project will provide a unique opportunity for disabled people to dance, perform and compete in the first ever national inclusive dance project of its kind.

Strictly Cymru is open to keen disabled dancers, between 16 and 65 years old.

The competition started in the first of five regional heats this weekend, with the grand final taking place in Cardiff on April 7.

The first regional heat was held in Barry where competitors battled it out for a place in the grand final. In attendance was Vale MP and Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns, who met the participants and learned more about the project.

Mr Cairns Rob commented that "I was he "had a great time,

hugely impressed by the skills being learnt and demonstrated here in the regional heat stages. Strictly Cymru taught the dancers confidence, fitness and motivation, all of which are essential elements of a healthy lifestyle and are vital to an individual's well being.

"It was a pleasure to witness how much the dancers were enjoying the competition on Saturday and I wish the best of luck to all who are going forward to the final."

Many participants will come from Leonard Cheshire Disability's Welsh care homes or inclusive volunteering programme Can Do, as well as participants from local dance groups.

The regional heat winners were Rob Pugh, 48, from Danybryn Cheshire Home and Chloe and Reece, students from Motion Control Dance Barry.

Chloe said that she was "thrilled to be part of the Strictly Cymru event, it's really good exercise," while Reece said that "the dance was really fun to do."

Leonard Cheshire Disability are working in partnership with inclusive dance company Stepchange Studios to deliver Strictly Cymru. Stepchange Studios will provide dance instructors and a professional dance performance at each of the regional heats.

Rashmi Becker, founder and director of Stepchange Studios said: "One in five people in Wales has a disability. I set up Step Change Studios as a response to the lack of opportunities for disabled people to participate in dance. A key barrier to participation is the lack of engagement from

organisations that can enable more and better access and inclusion. So I am thrilled to be supporting Leonard Cheshire to present

Emma Mallam, director of Motion Control Dance said: "We were delighted to be involved in this event. We look forward to working with Leonard Cheshire Disability at the grand final in April 2018."

Leonard Cheshire research shows as much appetite for sport and exercise among disabled people as there is in the wider population, but there are barriers to participation. Strictly Cymru is one of many projects Leonard Cheshire is running to get more disabled people into sport.

For more information, visit www.leonardcheshire.org.

Melanie Owen

Timely advice on 'festive gas leaks'

WALES & West Utilities is reminding people across the local area of the steps to take if they smell gas during the festive season.

If you smell gas or are worried about gas safety, you can call 0800 111 999 at any time, day or night, 365 days a year. The call is free.

Just pick up the phone, dial the number and you will be put through to a trained operator who will take all the details and send an emergency engineer to help you.

All calls to the National Gas Emergency Service are recorded, and may be monitored.

If you smell gas, call free on 0800 111 999 and please take these steps:

Turn off the gas at the meter, unless the meter is located in a cellar or basement - in which case, do not enter; If there is a smell of gas in the cellar or basement, evacuate the building immediately; Put out all naked flames, don't smoke or strike matches; Turn off all gas appliances and do not use again until they are checked by the engineer; Do not operate any electrical appliances or turn any switches on or off; Open doors and windows to ventilate the property; Evacuate the building as soon as you can and keep people away from the area.

May I wish your readers a safe and Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Clive Book, Head of Emergency Service, Wales & West Utilities

Rug is looking for owner

ABOUT two weeks ago, near the top of Constitution Hill, I went to the assistance of someone who had collapsed.

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Councillor queries application for waste wood storage

THE Docks Incinerator Action Group (DIAG) has flagged up a recent planning application for a 'waste wood storage site' in Barry.

The location is land at 'Berth 31 on Wimborne Road' at the docks and the proposal is for 'Use of the application site for the storage of pre-processed waste wood in connection with the neighbouring biomass energy plant...'

It would act as a feeder site for Biomass UK No 2 Ltd.

One person who is employed at the docks told The GEM local people would want to



Cllr Vincent Bailey.

know what safety measures would be required to store wood there and what sort of traffic it would entail.

Dyfan councillor, Vincent Bailey, praised DIAG's work in raising people's awareness.

He said: "Once again the applicants seem to be running off ahead of a licence being granted, and it is little wonder people think this is a done deal."

"I have called in a number of planning applications related to the incinerator, which will be discussed at planning committee shortly."

"But this one, in particular, raises serious questions which need to be answered."

He added: "I have to give high praise indeed to DIAG for their efforts and we mustn't leave any stone unturned in the battle to stop this monstrosity."

Biomass UK No 2 Ltd says the operation of the facility would not be hazardous to the health of people and the plant would be strictly monitored under the terms of a licence.

Estate agent gets behind 'help the homeless' campaign



THROUGH December and January last year, Peter Alan Estate Agents accepted donations of warm clothing, sleeping bags and shoes, in order to help the homeless over Winter.

As part of the initiative alongside Bigmoose - a not-for-profit organisation which aims to 'inspire people to live better lives' - the donations were distributed to those living on the streets across

south Wales.

A spokesperson said: "We want to send a massive thank you to all of our customers who donated to the campaign. We had a grand total of 1,105 bags donated to the cause."

Following this partnership, this winter they are working with Bigmoose again and running Don't Forget Your Toothbrush - collecting toiletries for the homeless.

Collection points are in each of their 30 branches across south Wales.

Examples of the type of things the charities are looking for are: shampoo, shower gel, toothbrushes, toothpaste, sanitary products, deodorant, new socks and underwear, soap, hand sanitiser, razors, wet wipes, packs of tissues and lip salve.

If you wish to donate any items to the cause or to find out more, visit a branch of Peter Alan.

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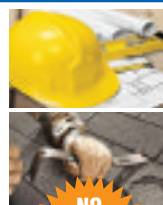
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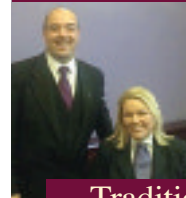
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Missing Cat

MISSING BLACK CAT

Missing from the Colcot Road area since Wednesday 6th December goes by the name of Saxo wearing a purple collar with sparkles and a bell on it. Very friendly and loving. If anyone has any information that leads to her being found a reward is available.

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Family Notices

ROBERTSON**Phil**

Passed away suddenly but peacefully at home on November 27, aged 71 years. Beloved wife of Dilys, loving father to George and Katie. Grandpa to Flynn, he will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

No black, please wear navy in honour of the Alvis. Resting at W.A. Brown Funeralcare, Llantwit Major until the service at Llanblethyn Church, Cowbridge on Tuesday, December 19 at 10.30am and afterwards to Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. Family flowers only, donations welcomed to the RNLI c/o the Funeral Director (cheques only).

TAYLOR**Lilian Lorraine Harriet**

Passed away peacefully at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff on 5th December 2017, 'Lilla' of Elis Fisher Court, Barry. Dearly loved mother of Alan, Patricia (late), Lorraine and Paul. Cherished grandmother and great-grandmother.

She will be deeply missed by all her family and friends.

Memorial Service to be held at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry on Wednesday, 20th December at 2pm, followed by committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home.

In Memory

In Remembrance of Paul Bellion

Passed away

17/12/2015

Miss you dearly

Your loving wife Anne, children Rachel, Samantha, Richard and all your grandchildren.

xxx

In loving memory of

LIZ RICKETTS

14.11.2015

Two years have passed, thinking of you every day.

Love Mitch x

JOYCE KENNEDY

December 1980

I miss you in the morning and I miss you late at night, and I miss you in the winter time when snow is falling white.

Merry Christmas darling and a very happy new year, I'm thinking of you sweetheart I only wish that you were here.

Sleigh bells in the distance and mistletoe on the tree, happy people holding hands but you're not here with me.

Merry Christmas darling and a very happy new year, I'm thinking of you sweetheart I only wish that you were here.

Love you forever, Jim xxx

Christmas Greetings

Leonor (Leo) Meredith

would like to wish all her friends and neighbours a

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

I will be making a donation in lieu of cards to the British Heart Foundation.

CONWAY**Janet**

Peacefully on 2nd December at Llandough Hospital, Janet sadly passed away.

Devoted wife to Robert, much loved mum of Robert, Matthew, Deborah and Julie. A cherished nan and great nan to her six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

She will be so greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Janet is in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until her service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Friday, 15th December at 11.30am. Family floral tributes only - donations, if desired, may be made at the service to support Ty Hapus in memory of Janet. Special thanks to all at Ward East 8 of Llandough Hospital and Waterfront Medical Centre, Barry for their care and support shown to Janet.

Further enquiries to Lyndsay J Ellis 01446 407962.

DUNN**Caroline Elizabeth 'Carol'**

Suddenly at home on 5th December 2017, aged 96. Loving aunt to Rosemary, Allun, Angela and the late Barry.

Will be sadly missed by family, friends and neighbours.

Resting at W. James & Sons Funeral Directors, Fonmon CF62 3BJ. Funeral Tuesday, 19th December, service 11am at Bethesda Fro United Reform Church, Eagle Road, St. Athan, CF62 4NR, followed by cremation at 12 noon at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Park, Port Road, Barry, CF62 9PX. Flowers to W. James & Sons.

SHEPPARD**Lilian June**

Peacefully on 6th December at Llandough Hospital, Lilian, aged 83 years. Beloved wife of the late Bill, dearly loved mum of Carl and Allyson. Loving grandmother of Jade, Carys, Luke and Jamie, great grandmother of Amber, Aaliyah, Riley, Lochlan and Peyton.

She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Tuesday, 19th December at 2pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for The Dogs Trust c/o the funeral director.

Acknowledgements

MURPHY**Jack Walter**

21st November 1924 - 6th December 2017

The family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to the District Nurses, Marie Curie Nurses, Dinas Powys Medical Centre, friends and family during these difficult last few months.

HAYNES**Ruth**

The family of the late Ruth Haynes extend grateful thanks to the wonderful ladies of Hallowsare who nursed her so devotedly during these past months.

Thanks also to the District Nurses, especially Natalie and Sarah, for their unflinching help and support. Thank you to Dr. Hardwick of Court Road Surgery for his care of all the family and thanks also to the Vale Social Services for their support.

SULLIVAN**Jeremy**

Marian and Dave would like to thank all their family and friends for their cards, flowers and support on the sudden loss of Jerry.

Many thanks to all who attended the service and special thanks to Jeff and Rhys of Precision Construction for their tributes to Jerry and also Lorraine Barrett, Lyndsay Ellis and Ben for their care and compassion at this sad time.

ROSSER**David John**

Kirsty would like to thank family and friends who attended David's funeral and for their invaluable support, cards and messages of sympathy during her recent sad bereavement.

Many thanks also for the kind donations to The Samaritans in memory of David. A heartfelt thank you also to the Revd Stephen Adams for his kind words of comfort.

David will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

WILLIAMS**Islwyn Lewis**

Peacefully on 9th December at Bella Vista Nursing Home, Barry, Islwyn, devoted husband of Jean, loving step dad to Graham and Allun. Cherished grandad of Heidi and Emma.

Much loved brother of Megan.

Islwyn will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until his service on Monday, 18th December at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 11am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service to support the work of Dementia UK in memory of Islwyn.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis. Tel 01446 407962.

Birthdays

Happy 70th Birthday**Margaret Daw**

17th December

With lots of love from all the family
xxxx

Olivia Jarvis**Happy 13th Birthday**

on December 18

★TEENAGER AT LAST★

Love & best wishes

Grandma & all the family xxx

Birth Announcement

Luke & Stacey Vincent

Congratulations on the birth of your beautiful baby daughter

Lottie Raye

Born 10 December 2017

Weighing 7½ lbs

All my love Mum

xxx

DUNNING**Dave & Vi**

wish their family, friends & neighbours a

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

★ Charity donation in lieu of cards. ★

Kuhnell Val & Don

would like to wish all of our family, friends and neighbours a very

Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

★ Instead of cards, a donation will be made to The Dogs Trust. ★

Janet Edgar

would like to wish her family, friends and neighbours

a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2018.

She has sent a donation to Velindre Cancer Care in memory of Alan in lieu of cards. xx

Joyce Taylor

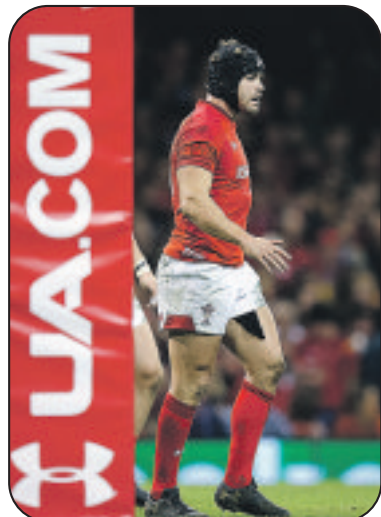
wishes all her friends and neighbours a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Donation to Marie Curie in lieu of cards.

Mixed autumn for Wales... NOW FOR THE SIX NATIONS!



ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY
HUW EVANS AGENCY.



It was mixed autumn for Wales as they battled their way to two wins over Georgia and South Africa, but fell short yet again against Australia and New Zealand.

These defeats aside, the bleeding of new players and the implementation of a new tactical approach was a positive, Warren Gatland attempting to inject fresh impetus into the squad, and while they'll have to do without injury absentees Sam Warburton, Jonathon Davies and Taulupe Faletau in next year's Six Nations, hopes are high that Wales can hold their own, with one eye on the 2019 Rugby World Cup.



Dinas Powys Golf Club - LADIES SECTION RESULTS

ON November 7, Turkey Trot 2 nine-hole Stableford:

1st Audrey Harwood 18 pts, 2nd Annie Blackburn & Sian Smith 17 pts on back one from 3rd Maxine Hird.

On November 14, Turkey Trot 3 nine-hole medal: 1st Lisa Ryley 44 gross - 7.5 = 36.5 nett, 2nd Samantha Saunders 51 - 14 = 37, 3rd Pat Gibbs 52 - 13.5 = 38.5

On November 21, Turkey Trot 4 nine-hole Stableford: 1st Samantha Saunders 21 pts, 2nd Maxine Hird 20 pts, 3rd Ann Mahenthiralingam 19 pts on back three from Sian Smith 19 pts.

On November 28, Turkey Trot 5 nine-hole medal: 1st Lisa Ryley 45 gross - 7.5 = 37.5 nett, 2nd Audrey Harwood 50 - 12 = 38, 3rd Sian Smith 49 - 10 = 39 on back six from Maxine Hird.

On December 5, Turkey Trot 6 nine-hole Stableford and Mulled Wine: 1st Sian Smith 20 pts, 2nd Chris Nelms 18 pts, on back six from 3rd Samantha Saunders 18 pts.

Visitors: 1st S. Beynon 21 pts on back six from 2nd P John 21 pts, 3rd D Watkins 18 pts; nearest the pin: Hilary Mears.

On December 12, nine-hole Texas Scramble: 1st Ann Mahenthiralingam, Sally Livsey-Davies, Samantha Saunders 39 gross - 6.33 = 32.67, 2nd Angela Brown, Dot Amery, Audrey Harwood 42-6.16=35.84, 3rd Ruth Yates, Lisa Ryley, Sue Bridle 43 - 4.75 = 38.25

Nine-hole eclectic, October 17 to December 11: 1st Sian Smith 30 nett, 2nd Maxine Hird 33 nett, 3rd Ann Mahenthiralingam 34 nett.

A busy, busy year for Barry Beavers

AS the year 2017 is nearing the end, Barry Beavers swimming club reflect on another busy year.

There have been highs and lows during the year, but more highs.

January – To begin the year Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club received a toy donation from the recent Round Table's Santa's Sleigh Appeal, which the club appreciated as the toys would be used for our club's sessions each week.

February – Barry Beavers had their first Halliwick Workshop course at Barry Leisure Centre. The workshop focused on the 10 point plan and the principles of the Halliwick method. There was a good turnout including those from other swimming clubs who use the Halliwick Method.

March – In March the club received a donation of £2,500 from Asda which contributed £1,000; and the Communities Chest Fund, which contributed the other £1,500, to help pay for two new hoist chairs for the club sessions and home galas. This was greatly appreciated by the club and all those who benefit.

April – The club received a cheque of £750 from Persimmon Homes Communities campaign which the club greatly appreciated, to help with running costs.

On April 16, Nicholas Cusken took on this year's Swimathon at

Cardiff International Pool for Marie Curie supported by Rita Limbrick from Cadoxton Youth Project.

He swam the 5km swim and beat last year's swimathon time of 2h 19m 58s to 2h 7m 52s which had knocked 12 minutes off the previous time.

On April 22, the team travelled to the Towy Salmon Gala – the first away gala of 2017. The team competed very well on the day and came home with 14 medals on the day which consisted of four golds, six silvers and four bronzes.

Also on the day there was a helper's relay in which Chris and Nicholas participated, but it didn't quite go to plan for Nicholas – because the inflatable whale came away from his strap which had not been done up correctly. He swam an extra two lengths with it attached properly, making an impressive tumble turn on the return length.

Pat Finch was proud of the team on the day, as they finished second behind Rhondda Polar Bears Swimming Club.

May – On May 20 the swimming team travelled to their second away gala at Ebbw Vale Leisure Centre for the Blaenau Gwent Otters Swimming Gala.

The team competed well on the day and there were a lot of close finishes in each event. The team, especially the youngsters, brought home 13 medals – four golds, four silvers and five bronzes. One of our

long time competitors actually won her first ever medals since she has been competing with the club (Suzanne Haslam).

Also the club finished in second place again including the team's league swim team which got first place. Well done team!

June – The club travelled to an away gala at Cwmbran for the Gwent Dolphins Gala on June 10. There was a 26-strong team which came home with five golds, seven silvers and two bronzes.

On June 24 Nicholas took on this year's Bantion Swoosh 6km open water swim for his first time, having to wear a wetsuit at the event.

He had to swim the River Aveton down to the Swoosh in Bantion. He managed it in one hour 50m. After the event he gave a cheque of £50 to the club, which he had been meaning to do for a few years, as a thank you for nominating him to carry the torch back in 2012.

July – July saw the unveiling of the swimming club's commemorative book named 'Splish Splash', which documents the complete history of the club which has been running for over 35 years.

During the unveiling, special guests were invited, along with all current and past members of the club to receive their own copies of the book. Alun Cairns MP and Jane Hutt AM were guests.

The book took months to create and was produced by Pat, Chris and Cath, and dedicated to Pat Finch and Angela, long term members of the club.

August – August began with our club's PIP 2 at Porthkerry Country Park on August 6, starting with the Red Arrow display fly past the park towards Barry Island – a spectacular

display. Once the display ended the PIP 2 was able to start officially and club members, friends, family, special guests and members from Blaenau Gwent Otters attended on the day and joined in the fun activities and competitions.

During the event there was a song and act contest in which there were six – seven acts. There was then the PIP 2 Olympics.

Later on in August, the club went on their annual outing to West Midlands Safari Park and took two coaches full of club members, friends, and family. Everyone enjoyed the trip and day out.

The next day the club had a free hour of swimming organised by Simon Jones from the Vale Council Sport Department.

Also three beavers went to Sheffield for the Special Olympics – Gareth Lloyd in gymnastics, Heather Williams in boccia and Mark Eveleigh in golf. All did well and came home with medals, and the whole club congratulates them.

September – The club resumed after the summer break and it was back to being timed for the regional/national gala.

On September 16, 24 members travelled to Ebbw Vale for the regional/national gala in which the team excelled, winning 15 medals and also, for the first time in many years, they pushed Rhondda Polar Bears Swimming Team down to second place, making our team champions of 2017.

Also, there was a good swim with the league swim team that was Tyler, Nicholas, Gareth and Mark.

The next day one of the younger members of the team (Layla) took part in 10km walk at Cardiff Bay over the

barrage for The Noahs Ark Children's Hospital charity, which helped her with her recovery from stroke a few years ago.

She has achieved a lot this year and competed very well with the swimming, winning medals along the way too. Well done Layla: you should be very proud of yourself, as the club and your parents are of you.

October – On October 14 the team of 24 Beavers travelled to their final gala of 2017 at Rhondda for the Rhondda Polar Bears swimming gala.

This time we had a return of Sophie Woodham in the team, as she hadn't been able to compete with the team for some time and she swam really well on the day. On the day the club competed against four other teams and competed really well.

Along with the main gala there were the finals for the league swim event in which the team was just pipped to second place behind the Blaenau Gwent Otters and won silver, though the medals weren't presented until the club Christmas party in December.

The swim team came home with 13 medals, six golds, three silvers and four bronzes and also were crowned overall champions of 2017. Pat Finch, the club's swimming gala's coach, would like to congratulate the whole swimming club team for their amazing achievement this year and being able to take the top spot from Rhondda Polar Bears, knocking them down to second place. She is very proud of all of us!

Also in October, Gareth Lloyd had another gymnastic competition away in Poole and came home with three golds. The club congratulates him for his achievement.

Finally, both Gareth



and Mark went to Special Olympics West Midlands Golf Tournament in Bromsgrove. They had a lot of competition from other participants and ended up with Mark getting fourth place and Gareth fifth in the nine hole division two competition.

November – The club went bag packing at Asda in Barry on the 19th. They'd helped shoppers and the shoppers filled the collection buckets. There was over £500 collected on the day.

On November 26, the club held their last Halliwick Workshop at Barry Leisure Centre. There was a good turnout that included members from Gwent Dolphins and Glantawe Gulls as well as other members from Barry Beavers Swimming Club on the day.

We did the theory in the squash court and then practical in the pool.

On November 25, the club was presented with an cheque of £1,014.32

from the Co-op, as they had selected us as one of the charities to do their coin collections this year. Pat and Chris attended the Co-op to receive the cheque from Joanne Beckingham from Barry store.

On November 28, the club received a young helpers award certificate from Parents Federation.

December – Barry Beavers Swimming Club were invited to the Cadoxton Youth Project's Christmas event, at Victoria Community Centre, where they were given a cheque of £300 which has been raised

throughout the year.

There was a visit from Santa for the youngsters and a fancy dress competition as well as a colouring competition. After this, everyone was given a Christmas meal and a free food bag.

The week after it was the club's Christmas party at Sully Bowls Club.

Lastly, the club would like to wish all the club members, supporters, families and so on a happy Christmas and a happy New Year. The club would like to think they can follow this year's successes into 2018.

NC

Important win for Barry chess team

DUE to a fixture rearrangement there was only the one league match this week.

However it was an important match between the Barry Camelots and the Cardiff Crowns.

After eight rounds of play these two teams were separated by only a half a point.

The advantage was held by the Cardiff team, while the Camelots were in the final relegation spot, but only just.

The Camelots were able to field a strong team. Sam Jukes, John Stephenson and John Ryles all recorded victories ably supported by Tom Cooke and Stephen Bonutto with draws to record a big win, pushing the Cardiff team into the relegation spot.

Remarkably, having spent all of the season looking over our shoulders to avoid relegation, at the halfway point we are marginally closer to the promotion battle than the relegation battle.

Sam Jukes has played in the Bristol Open Congress. He lost to three English-based players but against Welsh-based players he earned a draw against Andrew Di-Vetta and ended with a win over John Waterfield. Sam has now played 62 rated games since July 1.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at <http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com>.

PHIL JONES

Vale of Glamorgan Pool League news

THE Witchill Wildcats are now favourites to win the Asprou Barbers Vale Pool League after beating last year's champions Billy United 7-5.

The first singles session saw the Wildcats take a 3-1 lead with wins from Chris Bardsley, Ceri Morris and Paul Everest, with Gary Roberts winning the Billy United's first singles point.

The first doubles were shared with Martin Pring and Gary Roberts beating Bardsley and Watkins. Then Wildcats' James Hill and Morris beat Ian Roberts and John Farrugia.

The second set of singles is where the match really came a light. With some fantastic pool played by all the players, the Billy's Ian Roberts snatched defeat from the jaws of victory against Chris Bardsley.

John Farrugia took revenge over Paul Everest after his earlier defeat. James Hill broke and cleared edup all in one visit, a faultless display of potting.

The best and longest frame was Martin Pring getting the better of

Ceri Morris in a tight frame, with Martin keeping his nerve to keep the Billy in the game.

Victory was sealed minutes later with Morris and Watkins beating Gary Roberts and Pring. All in all, a great advert for Thursday night pool in the Vale.

The Libs Rejects had a very hard fought win, 7-5, over at the Finnegan's bar in Barry Island.

Sharing the opening four singles, the Libs forged ahead by taking the first two doubles before Finnegan's stormed back by taking three out of the next four singles.

However the Libs sealed victory by taking the remaining two doubles. Man of the match for the Libs was Mike Roberts winning all four of his matches, and he was ably supported by James Bastow.

Finnegan's star player was Harry Asprou, winning both his singles, and Joel Ball beat Libs captain Alex Campbell.

O'Briens hosted the Baruc Arms and took an early 3-0 lead and looked to be cruising to victory.

The Baruc Arms dug deep and remarkably won the next six frames with Calum Petty and

Gavin Stevens shining. O'Briens' John Wolfenden, in the last singles, and Croke and Morgan in the doubles, got two points back, before new boys James Latham and Connor Adams sealed a 7-5 victory for the Baruc Arms.

A huge thank you to the Glenbrook Wanderers for an enjoyable evening at the castle. The entire Dark Lords team played well on the night and came away with an 11-1 victory.

Man of the match went to Brian Harris after a great clearance in his singles. Karl Marsh won the Wanderers' only point in beating Dark Lords captain Sean Kelly.

The league are still looking for players of all capabilities to play and join our Thursday league. The Glenbrook are looking for two new players to join their new team.

If you are interested, please text Joe on 07870 498738 or phone Anthony on 07568 444180.

Many thanks to our sponsors Asprou Barbers, Park Crescent, Barry, Eze Drive Driving School and R&M Mobile Valeting.

The Barry and District League tables and results

THE latest results from the Barry and District League are as follows:

Crib Division 1: Cadoxton Cons 8, West End 7; Liberal 6, Rhooose Social 9, West End Runaways 7, Moors Boys 8.

League table: West End Runaways 88, Liberals 85, Cadoxton Cons 78, Wyndham Cons 76, Moors Boys 74, Rhooose Social 74, West End 65.

Skittles Division 1: Slammers 6, Rhooose Social B1; Sea View B 6, Rhooose Social A1; Allsorts 2, Rhooosters 5; Barry Town FC 2, Liberals A 5; Rhooose Social C 6, Rugby Club 1; West End D 5, Barries Boys 2; Liberals C 5½, King William XII 1½; West End C 7, Cambrian Flyers 0.

League Table: Rugby Club 51.5, West End 48.5, West End C 47.5, Rhooosters 45.0, Sea View B 42.0, Slammers 42.0, King William XII 41.0, Rhooose Social C 38.0, Rhooose Social B 38.0, Allsorts 36.0, Rhooose Social A 34.0, Barry Town FC 32.0, Liberals

A 32.0, Liberals C 28.5, Cambrian Flyers 23.0, *Barries Boys 16.0.

Snooker Division 1: Cadoxton Cons Z 3, Cadoxton Cons B 2; Wyndham Cons A 4, Penarth Cons A 1; Savoy A 4, Rhooose Social B 1; Harbour B 5, Savoy B 0.

League Table: Harbour B 49, Savoy A 41, Cadoxton Cons B 33, Cadoxton Cons Z 32, Wyndham Cons A 32, West End C 28, Services Social B 22, Savoy B 20, Rhooose Social B 19, Librators 17, Penarth Cons A 17.

Snooker Division 2: Cadoxton Misfits 4, West End A 1; Wyndham Cons D 3, Sully Sports A 2; West End B 3, Cadoxton Cons A 2; Penarth Cons B 3, Market Street C 2.

League Table: Cadoxton Misfits 40, Rhooose Social C 34, Market Street B 33, Penarth Cons B 32, Cadoxton Cons A 29, Market Street C 29, Harbour A 27, Wyndham Cons D 27, West End 24, West End B 23, Sully Sports A 22, Castle A 0.

* = Points deducted. All league and cup fixtures results at www.barryleagues.co.uk.

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15 64 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S Media Nav 5dr, Renault warranty Feb 2018, sat nav, PDC, cruise, 17k, choice

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15 65 MERCEDES C200 D Sport 4dr 7G-Tronic auto (Premium plus pack), sat nav, parktronic, reverse camera, heated seats, met grey, full beige leather

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15 65 PEUGEOT 108 1.0 Active 3dr, Peugeot warranty Dec 2018, DAB, Bluetooth, USB, 8k, blue

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15 65 BMW 640 D M Sport Gran Coupe 4dr auto, BMW warranty Nov 2018, 20" alloys, sat nav, head-up display, 19k, full leather, choice

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15 65 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-2 AWD 5dr, Kia warranty Oct 2022, pan roof, pdc, 20k, white, half leather

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15 65 KIA SORENTO 2.2 CRDI KX-2 AWD 5dr (7-Seater), sat nav, 18" alloys, side steps, cruise, reverse camera, heated seats, black, full leather

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15 15 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTi ecoFLEX Techline 5dr 4WD, sat nav, cruise, PDC, 24k, silver

£10995

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14 64 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 COOPER ALL4 5dr (TLC & Pepper Pack) Bluetooth, 17" black alloys, 24k, starlight blue

£12995


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12 62 BMW 320 D M Sport plus 2dr convertible, sat nav, 19" alloys, cruise, pdc, Bluetooth, in white nav, full leather

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15 65 PEUGEOT 5008 1.6 BlueHDI Active 5dr, Peugeot warranty Nov 2018, cruise, 17" alloys, 14k, grey

15 15 AUDI A1 1.6 TDI SE 3dr, Audi warranty July 2018, DAB, USB, 19k, black.....£10995

14 64 AUDI A3 1.2 T FSI Sport 5dr S-Tronic, Bluetooth, DAB, AMI, 23k, black.....£13495

16 16 AUDI A3 1.6 TDI Quattro Sport 4dr, Audi warranty April 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, 18" alloys, 13k, white.....£17495

16 66 AUDI A3 2.0 TDI Quattro S-Line 3dr S-Tronic automatic (184bhp), sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, dab, 18" alloys, 5k, met grey, half-leather.....£21995

14 14 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI SE Technik 4dr, sat nav, cruise, 39k, grey, full leather.....£12495

16 66 AUDI A5 2.0 TDI Black Edition Plus Quattro 5dr S-Tronic, Audi warranty, Oct 2019, sat nav, 19" alloys, 12k, misano red, full leather.....£24995

15 65 AUDI A7 3.0 TDI Ultra SE Executive 5dr S-Tronic, sat nav, Audi park system plus, cruise, 19" alloys, heated seats, black with full leather.....£23495

15 65 AUDI TT 2.0 TDI Sport Ultra 3dr Coupe, Audi warranty Sep 2018, 18" alloys, Bluetooth, 3k, white, half leather.....£20995

12 12 BMW 116i Urban 5dr, sat nav, 17" alloys, 39k, white, full leather.....£9995

12 62 BMW 116 D EfficientDynamics 5dr, Bluetooth, PDC, deep sea blue.....£8495

14 64 BMW 116 D EfficientDynamics 5dr, sat nav, xenons, pdc, heated seats, 16k, valencia orange with full leather.....£12995

15 15 BMW 116 2.0 D Sport 5dr, BMW warranty April 2018, sat nav, cruise, PDC, red.....£11995

16 66 BMW 116 D M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, 18" alloys, Bluetooth, grey.....£15495

13 13 BMW 118 D Sport Plus 2dr convertible, 18" alloys, heated seats, carbon black with full oyster beige leather.....£12795

14 64 BMW 118 2.0 D M Sport 3dr automatic, sat nav, Harman kardon, 18" alloys, 25k, white.....£14495

15 15 BMW 118 2.0 D Sport 5dr, BMW warranty April 2018, sat nav, sport plus pack, 18" alloys, 28k, red.....£12995

14 14 BMW 120 D M Sport 3dr (184bhp) sat nav, xenons, 18" alloys, estoril blue, full leather.....£13995

14 14 BMW 120 DSE 5dr (184bhp), Harman Kardon, pdc, dab, Bluetooth in red.....£9995

14 14 BMW 120i D M Sport 5dr (184bhp), widescreen sat nav, Harman kardon, heated seats, 35k, met orange.....£14495

14 64 BMW M135 3.0 M Sport 3dr (320bhp) widescreen sat nav, 25k, white, with full red leather.....£17995

15 65 BMW M135 3.0 i 3dr automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, 18" alloys, 18k, choice, full leather.....£19995

14 64 BMW 220i D M Sport 2dr coupe (184bhp), cruise, bluetooth, DAB, 28k, white.....£14995

16 16 BMW M235i 3.0 2dr convertible, BMW warranty March 2019, sat nav, PDC, silver, full leather.....£24995

14 64 BMW 220 D M Sport 2dr (190bhp), sat nav, 18" alloys, Bluetooth, privacy glass, M rear spoiler, 38k, choice, full leather.....£16795

14 64 BMW 225d M Sport 2dr (218bhp) automatic, pro nav, reverse camera, white, full leather.....£18995

11 61 BMW 318i DES 4dr (143bhp), 18" alloys, privacy glass, Bluetooth, silver.....£7495

14 64 BMW 318 D Sport 4dr, sat nav, 18" alloys, Bluetooth, 37k, liquid blue.....£14495

14 64 BMW 318 D M Sport Estate automatic, Bluetooth, 19" alloys, 19k, estoril blue, full leather.....£17995

15 15 BMW 320d EfficientDynamics BluePerformance Business Edition 4dr, BMW warranty June 2018, 18" alloys, sat nav, 15k, black, full oyster leather.....£16995

14 14 BMW 320 D M Sport GT 5dr, widescreen sat nav, cruise, pdc, heated seats, estoril blue, full leather.....£16995

14 14 BMW 320 D Sport XDRIVE 4dr, sat nav, bluetooth, 17" alloys, 28k, choice.....£13995

15 15 BMW 320 D BluePerformance M Sport 4dr, BMW warranty March 2018, sat nav, 19" alloys, estoril blue, full leather.....£16495

15 15 BMW 320 D Luxury GT 5dr automatic, BMW warranty April 2018, 18" alloys, 30k, beige, full leather.....£18995

15 65 BMW 320 D BluePerformance M Sport 4dr, BMW warranty Sep 2018, pro nav, 19" alloys, 21k, red, full leather.....£20995

16 16 BMW 330i E Sport 4dr automatic Start/Stop, sat nav, cruise, pdc, 8k, choice.....£20995

17 17 BMW 320 D BluePerformance M Sport 4dr auto, BMW warranty March 2020, M Sport + pack, pro nav, heated seats, Bluetooth with wireless charging, 8k, full leather, choice.....£23495

16 16 BMW 335d M Sport XDRIVE 4dr automatic, BMW warranty March 2019, 19" alloys, sat nav, 9k, choice, full leather.....£22995

16 16 BMW 335i D M Sport GT 5dr automatic (313bhp) 19" alloys, sat nav, heated seats, 13k, full leather, choice.....£23995

16 66 BMW 335d M Sport XDRIVE 4dr auto, BMW warranty Dec 2019, M Sport + pack, 19" alloys, sat nav, 9k, black, full leather.....£24995

16 66 BMW 335d M Sport XDRIVE Estate automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2016, 19" alloys, sat nav, Harman kardon, 12k, estoril blue, full leather.....£25995

14 14 BMW 420 D Sport convertible, 18" alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, heated seats, 27k, white, full leather.....£19995

14 64 BMW 420 D M Sport 2dr auto, 19" alloys, widescreen sat nav, service inclusive, Harman Kardon, cruise, pdc, full leather, choice.....£17495

14 64 BMW 420 D M Sport Gran Coupe automatic, 19" alloys, sat nav, Bluetooth, 16k, estoril blue, full ivory leather.....£19995

15 15 BMW 420i M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr, 19" alloys, widescreen sat nav, heated seats, 21k, in white with full black leather.....£20995

15 15 BMW 420 D Sport 2dr coupe, BMW warranty March 2018, sat nav, 18" alloys, Bluetooth, black, full leather.....£16995

15 15 BMW 420 D M Sport 2dr convertible auto, BMW warranty Sep 2018, 19" alloys, head-up display, 25k, grey, full beige leather.....£23995

15 15 BMW 420 D M Sport XDRIVE 2dr coupe (M Performance body kit) BMW warranty April 2018, sat nav, 20" alloys, 22k, silver, full leather.....£21995

15 65 BMW 420 D M Sport XDrive 2dr auto (190bhp), M sport plus pack, widescreen sat nav, 19" alloys, 17k, choice.....£21995

14 64 BMW 430 D M Sport 2dr coupe auto (258bhp), BMW warranty Oct 2017, sat nav, 19" alloys, 17k, choice, full leather.....£21995

15 15 BMW 430 D Luxury Gran Coupe 4dr automatic, BMW warranty May 2018, electric glass sunroof, sat nav, Harman kardon, 34k, grey, full leather.....£20995

14 64 BMW 435 D XDRIVE M Sport 2dr automatic (313bhp), BMW warranty Dec 2017, sat nav, 19" alloys, xenons, silver, full red leather.....£23495

12 62 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr automatic, sat nav, 18" alloys, 45k, black, full oyster leather.....£14495

13 63 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr, M Sport Plus package, 19" alloys, sat nav, 38k, white, full leather.....£16495

15 15 BMW 520 D M Sport Estate automatic, BMW warranty April 2018, pro nav, 18" alloys, 31k, black, full leather.....£18995

15 65 BMW 520 DSE 4dr automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, blue, full leather.....£17995

15 65 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr auto, BMW warranty Sep 2018, sat nav, harman kardon, 19" alloys, 18k, choice, full leather.....£19995

15 65 BMW 520 DSE 4dr (190) automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, bluetooth, choice, full leather.....£16995

15 65 BMW 520 D M Sport Gran Turismo 5dr auto, BMW warranty Dec 2018, 20" alloys, sat nav, 21k, white, full leather.....£23995

16 16 BMW 535 D M Sport 4dr auto, BMW warranty April 2019, M Sport plus pack, sat nav, 19" alloys, electric sunroof, 10k, white.....£25995

13 13 BMW 640 DSE 2dr coupe automatic, 20" alloys, soft close doors, reverse camera, sat nav, 31k, blue, full leather.....£20995

14 64 BMW 640 D M Sport coupe 2dr automatic, 20" alloys, pan roof, reverse camera, sat nav, 22k, choice, full leather.....£25995

15 64 BMW 640 D M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr auto, sunroof, M sport plus pack, 20" alloys, sat nav, 11k, full leather, choice.....£27995

16 16 BMW 740 D M Sport XDRIVE 4dr automatic (315 BHP), BMW warranty June 2019, Premium package, 20" alloys, head-up display, electric glass sunroof, 18k, white, full leather.....£45995

14 63 BMW X1 XDRIVE18D X-Line 5dr, 18" alloys, heated seats, 15k, silver, full leather.....£14995

14 14 BMW X1 XDrive 2.0 D X-Line 5dr automatic (184bhp), 18" alloys, heated seats, 27k, black with full leather.....£15995

14 14 BMW X3 20D SE XDRIVE 5dr automatic, pro nav, 17" alloys, grey, full leather.....£16495

15 15 BMW X3 30D M Sport XDRIVE 5dr automatic, BMW warranty May 2018, panoramic roof, pro nav, 20" alloys, 23k, red, full ivory white leather.....£28995

15 65 BMW X5 XDRIVE 25D M Sport 5dr automatic (7-seater) BMW warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, 20" alloys, reverse camera, 17k, white, full leather.....£36995

14 14 BMW X6 30D XDRIVE 5dr automatic, sat nav, 20" alloys, dynamic pack, black, full oyster leather.....£24995

14 64 CITROEN GRAND C4 PICASSO 1.6 E-HDI Airdream Exclusive 5dr (7-seater) pan roof, sat nav, met blue.....£11495

12 62 CITROEN DS3 1.6 E-HDI Airdream DStyle Plus 3dr, cruise, 17" alloys, 45k, bronze with white mirror caps and roof.....£5995

14 64 CITROEN DS3 1.6 E-HDI DStyle + 3dr, 17" alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, black.....£6995

15 15 CITROEN DS3 1.6 E-HDI Airdream DSTYLE 3dr, Citroen warranty June 2018, privacy glass, cruise, 23k, yellow.....£7495

15 65 CITROEN DS3 1.6 BlueHDI DSTYLE 3dr, Citroen warranty Nov 2018, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 10k, black.....£9795

16 16 DS DS4 1.6 BlueHDI Crossback 5dr, Citroen warranty April 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 18" alloys, met red, half leather.....£11995

12 12 FIAT 500 1.2 Pop 3dr, 37k, white.....£4495

14 14 FIAT 500L 1.3 MultiJet Diesel Pop Star 5dr, air-con, cruise, alloys, Bluetooth, 33k, red.....£6495

15 65 FORD ECOSPORT 1.0 T EcoBoost Titanium 5dr, Ford warranty Nov 2018, 17" alloys, cruise, 11k, choice, full leather.....£9795

15 65 FORD FIESTA 1.0 T EcoBoost Red Edition 3dr, Ford warranty Oct 2018, 17" alloys, privacy glass, Bluetooth, 13k, choice.....£9995

16 66 FORD FIESTA 1.6 EcoBoost ST200 3dr, sat nav, rear camera, heated seats, 7k, grey.....£15495

17 17 FORD FIESTA 1.6 EcoBoost ST-3 3dr, Ford warranty April 2020, heated seats, cruise, 5k, sport blue, half leather.....£14995

14 64 FORD FIESTA 1.6 TDCI Titanium X 5dr, sat nav, rev camera, black, full leather.....£8495

14 14 FORD FOCUS 1.0 T EcoBoost Zetec 5dr, appearance pack, 17" alloys, Bluetooth, silver.....£7495

16 16 FORD FOCUS 1.0 ecoBOOST Titanium 5dr, Ford warranty April 2019, cruise, Bluetooth, 8k, blue.....£11495

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.0 ecoBOOST Zetec S 5dr automatic, Ford warranty Oct 2019, DAB, Bluetooth, 10k, white.....£12995

15 15 FORD FOCUS 1.6 Zetec 5dr automatic, Ford warranty Aug 2018, DAB, alloys, Bluetooth, grey.....£9495

15 15 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Zetec S 5dr, Ford warranty July 2018, sat nav, Bluetooth, 23k, white.....£11295

14 64 FORD FOCUS 2.0 TDCI Zetec S 5dr powershift automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, 24k, white.....£10495

15 15 FORD FOCUS 2.0 TDCI Titanium X 5dr automatic, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, met red, half-leather.....£11495

17 66 FORD FOCUS 2.0 TDCI ST-3 5dr, Ford warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, 19" alloys, DAB, 10k, white, full leather.....£19995

14 14 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Zetec 5dr, 17" alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, metallic blue.....£10495

14 64 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium X 5dr AWD auto, pan roof, 19" alloys, heated seats, 13k, deep impact blue, full leather.....£16495

15 15 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium X Sport AWD 5dr Powershift, Ford warranty July 2018, pan roof, 19" alloys, 28k, black, full leather.....£16995

15 65 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr (Appearance Pack) Ford warranty Oct 2018, cruise, 23k, black, half leather.....£13995

17 17 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr, Ford warranty April 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, 8k, white.....£17995

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15 65 HYUNDAI I40 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive SE 5dr DCT automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, black. £11995

14 64 HYUNDAI IX35 1.7 CRDI Premium 5dr, Hyundai warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, black, full leather. £10495

14 64 HYUNDAI IX35 1.7 CRDI Go 5dr, pan roof, cruise, 18" alloys, heated seats, 26k, white with half-leather. £11495

13 13 HYUNDAI IX35 2.0 CRDI Premium 5dr 4WD 5dr, Hyundai warranty March 2018, sat nav, sunroof, cruise, silver, half leather. £10995

15 65 HYUNDAI TUSCON 1.7 CRDI Blue Drive SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty October 2020, Bluetooth, heated seats, 22k, silver. £13995

11 61 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI Premium 5dr automatic, 18" alloys, heated seats, 46k, grey, full leather. £9495

14 64 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI Premium 5dr, sat nav, rear camera, heated seats, in mocha with full leather. £12995

16 16 JAGUAR F-Pace 2.0 I4D R-Sport AWD 5dr, Jaguar warranty Sep 2019, sat nav, 19" alloys, 15k, met red, full leather. £31995

14 14 JAGUAR XF 2.2 D Luxury 4dr automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, pdc, 30k, black, full leather. £15495

15 15 JAGUAR XF 2.2 D Portfolio 4dr auto, Jaguar warranty April 2018, sat nav, heated seats, reverse camera, choice, full leather. £17995

15 65 JAGUAR XF 2.2D R SPORT 4dr Automatic, 19" alloys, sat nav, xenons, met black. £19495

15 15 JEEP RENEGADE 2.0 Multitrek Trailhawk 5dr automatic 4WD, sat nav, cruise, pdc, heated seats, 12k, white with full leather. £16995

17 17 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI 2 Estate ISG, Kia warranty April 2024, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 492 miles, black. £17495

15 15 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 1 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty March 2022, cruise, Bluetooth, USB, 22k, white. £12995

11 61 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRD KX-2 AWD 5dr automatic, pan roof, cruise, Bluetooth, black with half-leather. £10995

14 14 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRD KX-4 AWD 5dr automatic, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, black with full leather. £14495

14 14 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-3 AWD 5dr, Kia warranty June 2021, pan roof, sat nav, heated seats, choice, full leather. £11495

15 65 KIA VENZA 1.6 CRDI 4 ISG 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 22k, white, half-leather. £10995

15 65 MAZDA 3 2.0 SE 5dr, Mazda warranty Sep 2018, Bluetooth, USB, 11k, crystal blue. £11495

13 13 MAZDA 6 2.2 SE-L 4dr auto, 17" alloys, cruise, soul red. £8995

14 64 MAZDA 6 2.2 D SE-L Estate, sat nav, Bluetooth, PDC front & rear, choice. £8795

15 65 MAZDA 6 2.2 D Sport Nav 4dr, Mazda warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, heated seats, 28k, silver, full leather. £13995

14 64 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 DSE-L Lux Nav 5dr automatic, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, pdc, met blue. £11995

14 64 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 TD Sport 4WD 5dr (175bhp), sat nav, reverse camera, Bose, full leather, choice. £12495

13 13 MERCEDES A180 CDI BlueEfficiency SE 5dr, sat nav, cruise, 38k, red. £11995

14 64 MERCEDES A180 CDI Sport 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, 35k, choice. £13995

16 65 MERCEDES A180 D Sport 5dr & G-DCT automatic, reverse camera, full leather, choice. £14995

16 65 MERCEDES A180d AMG Line Executive 5dr, Mercedes warranty Feb 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 16k, met blue, half leather. £17495

14 14 MERCEDES B180 CDI Sport 5dr 7G-DCT, 18" alloys, reverse camera, 35k, grey, full leather. £12995

14 63 MERCEDES B200 CDI SE 5dr, sat nav, PDC, white. £10995

15 65 MERCEDES CLA220 CDI Sport Estate 7G-DCT auto, Mercedes warranty Nov 2018, sat nav, heated seats, 26k, white, half leather. £20995

15 15 MERCEDES C220 CDI BlueTEC AMG Line 4dr 7G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty April 2018, sat nav, heated seats, Bluetooth, grey, full leather. £19495

15 15 MERCEDES C250 CDI AMG Sport 2dr coupe 7G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty Sep 2018, 18" alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, 15k, silver, half leather. £17495

15 65 MERCEDES C250 CDI AMG Line (Premium Plus) Estate auto, pan roof, sat nav, 19" alloys, 25k, choice, full leather. £23995

15 65 MERCEDES E220 CDI BlueTEC AMG Night Edition 7G-Tronic plus Estate, Mercedes warranty Sep 2018, sat nav, DAB Bluetooth, choice, full leather. £19995

15 65 MERCEDES E220 CDI BlueTEC AMG Line Cabriolet 7G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, privacy glass, choice, full leather. £17995

15 65 MERCEDES E220 CDI BlueTEC AMG Line Cabriolet 7G-Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty October 2018, sat nav, 18" alloys, white, full leather. £21995

14 64 MERCEDES E250 CDI AMG Sport 2dr 7G-Tronic Plus, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 16k, black, full leather. £20495

13 63 MERCEDES E300 CDI BlueTEC Hybrid AMG Sport Estate 7G-Tronic Plus, sat nav, parktronic, heated seats, silver with full leather. £16995

14 64 MERCEDES E350 CDI BlueTEC AMG Sport Cabriolet 7G-Tronic Plus, 19" black alloys, sat nav, reverse camera, 20k, white, full leather. £23995

14 64 MERCEDES GLA220 CDI AMG Line Premium Plus 5dr 7G-DCT 4Matic, pan roof, 19" alloys, reverse camera, 26k, red. £22995

15 65 MERCEDES GLA220 CDI AMG Line 5dr 4MATIC, pan roof, reverse camera, 19" alloys, 14k, south seas blue, half leather. £24995

16 16 MERCEDES GLC250d Sport (Premium) 4MATIC 5dr 9-G, Mercedes warranty June 2019, sat nav, panoramic roof, reverse camera, Bluetooth, black, full cream leather. £30995

14 64 MERCEDES SLK250 CDI BlueEfficiency 2dr convertible 7G-Tronic Plus, airscarf-neck level heating, Bluetooth, iridium silver, full leather. £14495

16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 D COOPER 6dr, sat nav, chilli pack, 10k, white. £15495

14 14 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 3dr Start/Stop, chilli pack, cruise, Bluetooth, in blue with white roof and mirror caps. £8995

15 15 MINI COOPER 1.5 3dr (TLC & Chili Pack) Mini warranty April 2018, 16" alloys, DAB, 18k, volcanic orange. £11495

15 15 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr, chilli + media XL + TLC pack, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, half-leather, 19k, choice. £10995

15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 5dr auto (Media XL, TLC & Chili Pack) Mini warranty Sep 2018, sat nav, 16" black alloys, 22k, black. £12495

16 16 MINI COOPER 1.5 5dr auto (TLC & Chili pack) Mini warranty May 2019, pan roof, 17" alloys, 2k, blue, half leather. £14995

16 66 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr (Media XL & Chili pack) Mini warranty Sep 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, black, half leather. £13495

11 61 MINI COOPER 2.0 D 2dr convertible automatic (chilli pack) bluetooth, 17" alloys, 35k, white. £8995

14 64 MINI COOPER 2.0 COOPER S 3dr (TLC Pack) (192bhp), JCW body kit, Harman Kardon, 17" black alloys, 16k, volcanic orange, half leather. £13995

15 15 MINI COOPER S 2.0 3dr (JCW sport pack) Mini warranty March 2018, 18" alloys, heated seats, 13k, black, full leather. £15995

16 65 MINI COOPER 2.0 SD 5dr (170bhp), chilli pack, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, DAB, 9k, choice. £12995

16 66 MINI COOPER 2.0 SD 3dr (170 bhp), chilli pack, Mini warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, DAB, USB, 17" alloys, 8k, black, half leather. £13995

14 14 MINI ONE 1.6 D 3dr (Pepper pack) Bluetooth, 31k, blue. £7995

14 64 MINI ONE 1.6 3dr (TLC & Pepper Pack) DAB, USB, Bluetooth, 14k, choice. £8995

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14 63 MITSUBISHI ASX 1.8 TD 4 5dr, 4WD, panoramic roof, sat nav, cruise, 28k, silver, full leather. £10995

15 65 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER 2.2 DI-D GX3 5dr (7-Seater), cruise, pdc, Bluetooth, 9k, black. £17995

16 16 NISSAN JUKE 1.2 DIG-T Tekna 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, Bluetooth, 10k, met grey. £11995

15 65 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, Nissan warranty Nov 2018, sat nav, reverse camera, 13k, red, full leather. £10995

15 65 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 Acenta Premium 5dr Xtronic automatic, Nissan warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, reverse camera, 22k, met red. £11495

15 65 NISSAN NOTE 1.2 N-Tec 5dr, Nissan warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, reverse camera, 11k, white. £8995

14 64 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, 19" alloys, sat nav, reverse camera, pan roof, 23k, choice, full leather. £13495

14 64 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Acenta Premium 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, Bluetooth, 24k, choice. £11495

15 65 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 19" alloys, heated seats, 15k, silver with full leather. £14995

14 14 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr X-Tronic auto, sat nav, pan roof, cruise, Bluetooth, heated seats, 18k, in mocha with full leather. £14995

15 15 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Acenta Premium 5dr (130BHP), Nissan warranty May 2018, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, met red. £12995

15 65 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI N-TEC+ 5dr, Nissan warranty Sep 2018, sat nav, reverse camera, grey. £14995

16 16 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 4x4 5dr (7-seater) Nissan warranty April 2019, pan roof, cruise, 12k, black. £16495

14 14 PEUGEOT 108 1.0 Active 3dr, Bluetooth, DAB, USB, 19k, silver. £4995

14 64 PEUGEOT 108 1.2 VTI Pure Tech Felina 3dr, DAB, reverse camera, privacy glass, 25k, black, full leather. £6495

16 66 PEUGEOT 208 1.6 BlueHDI Allure 5dr, Peugeot warranty Nov 2019, Bluetooth, DAB, alloys, 10k, blue. £8995

12 62 PEUGEOT RCZ 1.6 THP Sport 2dr coupe, 18" alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, 42k, grey. £8495

15 65 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Energy Dynamique S 5dr auto, Renault warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, Bluetooth, PDC, white. £10795

13 63 RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCI Energy Dynamique MediaNav 5dr, sat nav, 16" alloys, 27k, black. £7495

14 64 RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI Energy GT Line Tom Tom 2dr Coupe, sat nav, Bluetooth, 35k, blue, half leather. £8495

16 16 SEAT LEON 1.2 TSI SE Sport Coupe 3dr, Seat warranty Aug 2019, cruise, Bluetooth, USB, 5k, red. £9995

16 16 SKODA FABIA 1.2 TSI Colour Edition 5dr, cruise, DAB, Bluetooth, 15k, white with black roof. £9495

16 66 SKODA OCTAVIA 2.0 TDI SE L 5dr, Skoda warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, DAB, 7k, choice. £12495

17 17 SKODA OCTAVIA 2.0 TDI SE L Estate, Skoda warranty July 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, DAB, only 700 miles, met blue. £16995

14 64 TOYOTA AYGO 1.0 VVT-I 5dr, Toyota warranty Dec 2019, USB, PAS, 34k, white. £4995

14 14 TOYOTA VERSO 1.8 V-Matic Icon M-drive S 5dr automatic (7-seater) reverse camera, Bluetooth, cruise, silver. £10795

16 65 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 T SRI 5dr (150bhp), Vauxhall warranty Feb 2019, 17" alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, white. £10495

17 17 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI Elite 5dr, Vauxhall warranty April 2020, sat nav, heated seats, 7k, silver, full leather. £12795

15 15 VAUXHALL ASTRA GTC 2.0 CDTI SRI 3dr, cruise, Bluetooth, 18" alloys, 23k, white. £9495

15 15 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTI SE 5dr automatic, cruise, Bluetooth, heated seats, full leather, choice. £10795

13 13 VW CC 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech 4dr DSG automatic, sat nav, 17" alloys, 20k, black. £11995

15 65 VW GOLF 1.4 TSI BlueMotion Tech GTE 5dr DSG, VW warranty Oct 2018, 18" alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, privacy glass, 20k, silver. £21495

12 12 VW GOLF 1.6 TDI BlueMotion Tech SE cabriolet, cruise, pdc, 31k, black. £8995

13 13 VW SCIROCCO 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech 3dr, sat nav, 18" alloys, 32k, black, full leather. £12495

15 15 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech 4Motion 5dr, VW warranty May 2018, sat nav, pdc front & rear, 29k, black. £13995

14 64 VOLVO S60 2.0 D4 SE 4dr (181bhp), sat nav, cruise, dab, heated seats, 37k, black. £11995

16 16 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D5 R-Design 5dr automatic AWD, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, heated seats, black, half-leather. £22495



£17995

14 64 AUDI A3 2.0 TDI S-Line 2dr Cabriolet, 19" alloys, sat nav, 13k, white, full leather



£8995

16 66 FORD FIESTA 1.5 TDCI Zetec 5dr, Ford warranty October 2019, DAB, Bluetooth, USB, choice



£15995

14 64 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech GTD 5dr DSG automatic, 18" alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, 29k, white, full leather



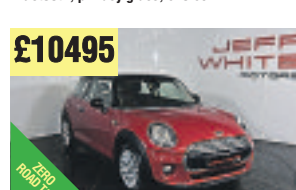
£14995

17 17 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.6 CDTI SRI VX-Line Nav 5dr, Vauxhall warranty April 2020, sat nav, 19" alloys, 2k, met blue



£10995

14 64 BMW 116D Sport 5dr, cruise, pdc, Bluetooth, privacy glass, choice



£10495

15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 3dr (TLC & Chili Pack) Mini warranty Dec 2018, Bluetooth, DAB, red



£7495

10 10 BMW 318 2.0 D M Sport 4dr, 17" alloys, Bluetooth, bluewater



£20995

15 65 BMW 420 D M Sport 2dr automatic (190 BHP), M sport plus pack, 19" alloys, Harman Kardon, wide screen nav, full leather, 24k, red



£18995

15 65 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech R-Line Edition 4Motion 5dr DSG auto, VW warranty Dec 2018, 18" alloys, PDC, 29k, white, full leather



£14995

14 64 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr (7-seater) sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, 19" alloys. Met green, full leather



£14995

16 66 VOLVO V40 2.0 D2 R-Design Pro 5dr, Volvo warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, 18" alloys, 8k, white, full leather



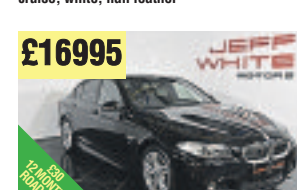
£8995

14 64 MINI ONE 1.6 Convertible (TLC Pack) 16" alloys, aircon, 10k, chilli red



£10995

13 63 MERCEDES A180 CDI Sport 5dr, sat nav, cruise, white, half leather



£16995

15 15 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr automatic, sat nav, 18" alloys, black, full leather

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2012 Mercedes-Benz C Class 2.1 C220 CDI BlueEFFICIENCY AMG Sport Sport Coupe 7G-Tronic Plus 2dr PHONE B/T AUDIO FINE EXAMPLE, 20k, Black, KE12HTV ... £12,990



2014 Audi A3 1.6 TDI S Line Sportback 5dr FSH NAVI 18"ALLOYS PHONE, 50,000 miles, Silver, HV14LHU ... £12,990



2013 BMW 3 Series 2.0 320d BluePerformance Sport Touring 5dr (start/stop) JUST 1 OWNER : FSH : NAV LTHR, Blue, RJ13WRA ... £11,490



2010 Mercedes-Benz C Class 6.3 C63 AMG 7G-Tronic 4dr 7 X MERCEDES STAMPS FSH NAV, 54,500 miles, Silver, OV10KZT ... £21,990



2013 Audi Q3 2.0 TDI S Line 5dr EXCEPTIONAL NAVIGATION FSH, Black, AE63RVP ... £12,490



2015 BMW 1 Series 1.5 118i M Sport Sports Hatch 5dr (start/stop) 1 OWNER 13,000 NAVIGATION HIFI, White, KV65ZRG ... £15,990



2014 Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi ECONetic Zetec Navigator 5dr 1 OWNER : FSH : £0 TAX : NAVI, White, BF64VRM ... £7,290



2012 Jaguar XF 2.2 TD Sport 4dr 35,000 MLS FSH NAV DAB PHONE, Silver, LM12DZA ... £13,990



2014 Mercedes-Benz A Class 1.5 A180 CDI AMG Sport 5dr NAVIGATION £20 TAX 1 OWNER FSH, 33,000 miles, White, LO63YEF ... £14,790



2015 BMW 5 Series 2.0 520d SE Touring 5dr 1 OWNER : FSH : NAV LTHR DAB, Grey, AU15XKG ... £13,990



2015 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 TSI BlueMotion Tech GTI (Performance pack) Hatchback 5dr (start/stop) 24,000 MLS FSH NAV 18" ALLOYS, Red, MD64UJP ... £18,990



2015 Mercedes-Benz CLS 2.1 CLS220 AMG Line Shooting Brake 5dr (start/stop) NAVIGATION LEATHER 1 OWNER, 25,000 miles, Grey, WJ65UJS ... £23,490



2010 BMW 5 Series 2.0 520d SE Touring 5dr FSH 3 X STAMPS : LEATHER : PDC, Blue, NX60EUO ... £9,990



2014 Mercedes-Benz E Class 2.1 E220 CDI AMG Sport 7G-Tronic Plus 5dr FSH NAVIGATION : HARMAN KARDON, Grey, OU64PZB ... £15,490



2013 Skoda Yeti 2.0 TDI CR DPF Adventure Station Wagon 5dr 38,000 MLS FSH NAVIGATION, White, BK63JFO ... £8,690



2015 Citroen DS3 1.2 PureTech DStyle Plus 3dr (start/stop) 1 OWNER FSH £20 TAX BIG SPEC, 57,000 miles, Red, GJ15ZTL ... £6,995



2015 Ford Transit Custom 2.2 TDCi ECONetic 290 L1H2 Panel Van 5dr 1 OWNER 40,000MLS FORD HISTORY, White, BD15ZHA ... £9,990



2012 Nissan Qashqai 1.5 dCi Acenta 2WD 5dr 74,000 MLS : FSH : 61.4 MPG, Black, ND62TZX ... £6,790



2017 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 TDI SE Nav Hatchback DSG 5dr (start/stop) FACE LIFT MODEL 2017, 2,500 miles, Grey, DF17KYC ... £16,990



2011 BMW 3 Series 3.0 325d SE 4dr FULLY LOADED: FSH : NAVIGATION Silver, RE60XHZ ... £7,990



2011 BMW Alpina D3 Bi-Turbo 2.0 4dr 31,000 MLS FSH NAV : 19"ALLOYS, Black, FJ61KXS ... £16,990



2012 Ford Focus 2.0 TDCi Titanium X Powershift 5dr 70,000 MLS FSH DIESEL AUTO, Silver, YS12FBB ... £7,295



2010 Land Rover Defender 90 2.4 TdI XS Station Wagon 3dr ONLY 50,000 MILES : XS MODEL, Black, LT60UBP ... £24,990



2011 Audi A3 1.6 Technik 3dr BEAUTIFUL 33,000 MILES FSH, Red, YE61FHH ... £6,990

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2015 BMW 2 Series 2.0 218d M Sport Auto 2dr (start/stop) 1 OWNER FSH FULL LEATHER DAB, 30,000 miles, White, LT65NZS£17,490



2015 Mercedes-Benz A Class 1.5 A180 CDI Sport Edition 7G-DCT 5dr (E6) 1 OWNER : 24,000 MLS FSH NAV, Grey, FP15GZD£14,445



2012 Vauxhall Astra Gtc 1.4 i Turbo 16v Turbo Sport 3dr (start/stop) ONLY 57,000 MLS FSH MEGA VALUE, White, DF61DHN£5,490



2015 Audi A3 1.6 TDI S Line Hatchback 3dr BT AUDIO TELEPHONE : 18"ALLOYS, 29,500 miles, Black, MD15EFT£14,995

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2013 Audi A4 Avant 2.0 TFSI S Line S Tronic Quattro 5dr FSH BIG SPEC RARE QUATTRO, Red, 65,000 miles, VO13KUR£14,490



2013 BMW 5 Series 2.0 520d SE Touring Auto 5dr 1 OWNER : NAV : FULL BMW HISTORY, Black, AY63ZTL£12,990



2007 Land Rover Defender 90 2.2 TD XS Station Wagon DPF 3dr PRIME EXAMPLE FSH 7 STAMPS, 50,000 miles, Blue, BG57YXD£22,995



2014 Vauxhall Mokka 1.7 CDTi ecoFLEX 16v Exclusiv FWD 5dr (start/stop) EXCELLENT 1 OWNER 70 MPG, 32,000 miles, Red, CA14HCX£8,490



2016 Mercedes-Benz Gla Class 2.1 GLA220 AMG Line 7G-DCT 4MATIC 5dr (start/stop) NIGHT EDITION PERFECT 1 OWNER, 14,000 miles, Silver, EG16MDX£23,490



2013 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech Highline DSG 5dr 1 OWNER : NAVIGATION : AUTO, Brown, MX63KSE£7,990



2016 Mercedes-Benz B Class B250e Electric Art Auto 5dr NAVIGATION LEATHER 2019 WARRANTY, 3,000 miles, White, RE16WCO£19,990



2014 Peugeot 508 2.0 HDi FAP Allure 4dr (Nav) 1 OWNER NAVIGATION CAMERA FSH, 44,000 miles, Black, EA64DCU£9,490



2014 BMW X5 3.0 40d SE xDrive 5dr (start/stop) BANG&OLUFSEN 7 SEATER LEATHER, Black, LG14KKO£25,990



2009 Suzuki Grand Vitara 2.0 16v X-EC 5dr SUPER 4X4 WITH SMARTNAVIGATION, Grey, CK09GNO£4,690



2013 Land Rover Range Rover Evoque 2.2 SD4 Dynamic Hatchback AWD 5dr BEAUTIFUL 41,700 FLRSH 1 OWNER, Red, LT63HTP£23,990



2014 Vauxhall Mokka 1.4 16v Turbo Tech Line 5dr (start/stop) BT AUDIO NAVIGATION 18"ALLOYS, 8,000 miles, Silver, LX64YEG£10,790



2013 Mercedes-Benz SLK 2.1 SLK250 CDI BlueEFFICIENCY AMG Sport 7G-Tronic Plus 2dr (start/stop) AIRSCARF : LEATHER : AMG PACK, 48,000 miles, Grey, HF63WVC£13,990



2013 Volkswagen Golf 1.4 TSI S Hatchback DSG 5dr (start/stop) £30 TAX LOW INS 65.7 MPG FSH, Silver, FY13ABU£7,790



2007 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 TDI GT Sport DSG 5dr 66,000 MILES FSH CAMBELT DONE, Black, NA57NYU£4,990



2015 Ford Kuga 2.0 TDCi Titanium Station Wagon 5dr JUST 40,000 MLS 1 OWNER FSH, Blue, FD150JC£11,990



2013 BMW X3 3.0 30d M Sport xDrive 5dr FSH : NAVIGATION : DAB : XENON, Grey, YK13DDJ£16,790



2015 Mercedes-Benz E Class 2.1 E220 CDI BlueTEC SE 7G-Tronic Plus 5dr ONLY 50,000 MLS FSH NAV LTHR, Black, WR15HDO£16,990



2011 Volkswagen Polo 1.4 SEL DSG 5dr 15,500 MLS VW HISTORY CAMBELT, Grey, EK61YLN£8,790



2014 Volvo XC60 2.0 TD D4 SE 5dr (start/stop) 1 OWNER : £30 TAX : 65.7 MPG, 26,000 miles, White, RV64ZYB£16,490

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- 11 **RANGE Rover Sport 3.0 TDV6 Autobiography Auto** met grey, 46,000 miles, superb example **REDUCED BY £1000 TO £26,995**
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- 01 **JAGUAR XK8 4.0 V8 Auto** In silver/navy hood with cream leather, very nice, low mileage **£13,995**
- 12 **JAGUAR XF 2.2 Diesel SE Auto** In black with black leather, 39,000 miles **£13,495**
- 10 **BMW 530 SE Diesel Auto** In silver with black leather, sat nav, 85,000 miles, host of extras **£10,995**
- 10 **AUDI TT 1.8 FSI Convertible** In white, 43,000 miles, very nice example **£10,995**
- 60 **LEXUS i250 Advance Automatic** In met grey with cream leather, only 19,000 miles from new, drives superb, sat nav and bluetooth **£10,995**
- 11 **AUDI A1 S-Line 1.4 TFSi Automatic** Black with silver trim, 43,000 miles, very nice example **£10,695**
- 14 **NISSAN Juke 1.5 DCi Tekna** In red, 42,000 miles, sat nav, leather etc **£9,995**
- 14 **SKODA Octavia 1.6TDi CRS Elegance Auto 5-Dr** In white/black leather, 45,000 miles, sat nav **£9,995**
- 12 **BMW X1 XDrive 2.0 DSE** In met red, black interior, 66,000 miles, diesel 4x4 **£9,995**
- 11 **VOLKSWAGEN Touran 1.6 TDI SE Blue-Tech** In met blue, 63,000 miles, diesel 7 seater **£9,995**
- 15 **CITROEN C4 Cactus 1.2 Flare Pure Tech** In white, 19,000 miles, under manufacturers warranty **£9,295**
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- 13 **HONDA Jazz 1.3 i-VTEC ES Automatic** In red, 17,000 miles from new **£7,995**
- 62 **NISSAN Juke 1.5 DCi Visia** In silver, 35,000 miles, very nice example **£7,995**
- 12 **MINI Cooper Chilli 1.6 Diesel** In red with white roof and mirrors, 27,000 miles high spec **£7,995**
- 14 **CITROEN DS3 1.6 Style** met blue/grey roof, 15,000 miles, 1 owner, fantastic example **REDUCED BY £500 TO £7,495**
- 10 **FORD S-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec Automatic** In black, 68,000 miles, diesel 7-seater **REDUCED BY £1000 TO £6,995**
- 64 **NISSAN Micra 1.2 Acenta 5-Dr** In met red, 7,000 miles, FSH, 1 owner **£6,995**
- 64 **SUZUKI Swift 1.2 SZL 3-Dr** In black with white roof, 19,000 miles, 1 owner **REDUCED TO £6,995**
- 63 **RENAULT Clio 1.5DCi Dynamique Nav-Energy 5-Dr** In met red, 49,000 miles, free road tax **£6,995**
- 13 **MINI One 1.6** In red, 31,000 miles, 1 owner with alloys, climate, pepper pack **REDUCED TO £6,995**
- 63 **FORD Fiesta 1.6 Diesel Eco Style 5-Dr** In red, 11,000 miles, 1 owner **£6,995**
- 62 **SKODA Octavia 1.6 TDI CR SE 5-Dr** In silver, 34,000 miles, 1 owner **£6,995**

- 12 **HONDA Jazz 1.3 i-VTEC ES Automatic** In black, only 27,000 miles **£6,995**
- 11 **VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.4 TSI Match 3-Dr** In black, 63,000 miles, alloys, a/c etc **£6,995**
- 09 **AUDI A4 2.0 TDi SE 4-Dr** In met blue, 53,000 miles, 2 owners **£6,995**
- 08 **AUDI A3 S-Line 1.9 TDI Convertible** In aruba blue with leather, sat-nav etc, 95,000 miles **£6,995**
- 58 **BMW 325i SE Coupe Auto** In met blue with cream leather, 47,000 miles, host of extras **£6,995**
- 07 **AUDI TT Convertible 2.0 TFSi 6-Speed** In silver with tan leather, 95,000 miles **£6,995**
- 63 **VAUXHALL Astra 1.4 Excite 5-Dr** In silver, 41,000 miles, 1 owner **£6,795**
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- 60 **MERCEDES A160 Blue-Efficiency Elegance** In silver, 37,000 miles, 2 owners **£5,995**
- 09 **SEAT Leon 2.0 TDI FR 5-Dr** In red, 53,000 mile hot hatch at **£5,995**
- 13 **FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge** In white, 42,000 miles, glass roof, alloys etc **£5,695**
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- 60 **VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 SE 5-Dr Automatic** In met-grey, 53,000 miles **£5,695**
- 64 **PEUGEOT 108 Active 3-Dr** In red, 23,000 miles, 1 owner, free road tax **REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,495**
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- 11 **VAUXHALL Meriva 1.7 Diesel Exclusive** In met-grey, 60,000 miles, two owners **£4,495**
- 61 **SKODA Fabia 1.4 SE 5-Dr** In red, 62,000 miles, 1 owner **REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,495**
- 11 **HYUNDAI i30 Comfort 1.6 CRDi 5-Dr** In met-burgundy, 69,000 mile diesel hatch **£4,495**
- 58 **VAUXHALL Corsa 1.6 SRI 5-Dr** In silver, only 29,000 miles, superb example **£4,495**
- 12 **CITROEN C1 VTR+ 3-Dr** In electric blue, 42,000 miles, low insurance **£3,995**
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Frustration for Llantwit as two points slip away

LLANTWIT MAJOR AFC travelled to play STM Sports in a much eagerly awaited clash as STM were just above them in the league table on goal difference.

The Major from the off were on the attack and pressurised their opponents and within the first five minutes, the STM goalkeeper had to make the first save of the game from Josh Jones.

A few minutes later Josh had another opportunity when he was through on goal only to see his shot again saved.

In the 13th minute, Leroy Jones had a golden opportunity to open the scoring for the Major when a mix-up in the STM area left him unmarked in the goal area, and when the ball came to him he tried to chip the keeper but his attempt was wide of the goal.

Josh Jones was creating havoc on the right wing for the Major,

the STM defenders trying numerous ways to stop him, and from one such run into the area his shot on goal was blocked, which led to a corner.

From the corner a fine header from Sean Williams was tipped over the bar by the STM keeper. Another chance fell to Kristian Smith a few minutes later when the ball came to him inside the area but the ball was slightly behind him and his shot on the turn went over the bar.

Although STM Sports

kept possession really well and passed the ball around, they did not create any chances and did not really trouble Jack Lansdowne in the the Major goal as he had very little to do in the first half.

Despite all of Llantwit's pressure, and seeing them play some fine football to create goalscoring opportunities, it was 0-0 at half-time.

The second half began similar to the first half with the Major on the attack and creating problems for STM and another golden opportunity fell to Lee Jones in the 51st minute when, from a fine run down the wing again by Josh Jones, a driven ball across the six yard area saw Lee slide in to put the ball over the bar from a few yards out.

Another chance missed, and this came back to haunt the Major as, totally against the run of play, in the 66th minute, a long pass from STM over the the Major defence saw the STM dangerman Lamin Conteh break the offside trap and calmly drove in on goal and see his shot end up in the far corner of the net. The Major appealed in vain to the linesman that he was

offside but their appeals were to no avail.

The Major immediately responded and two minutes later another chance fell to Lee Jones when a cross into the area saw his header tipped onto the crossbar by the STM keeper, and when the rebound fell back to him he could not get a shot in and the ball was cleared by a defender.

However, in the 71st minute the Major finally got their reward when from a free kick out wide, the cross into the goal area led to a challenge on the keeper by Max Morgan, who had just come on as a substitute, which saw the ball fall to Rob Jones who was unmarked to head home from three yards out to equalise.

The final score was 1-1 and another point gained which leaves the Major in fifth position in the league, three points behind the leaders Caldicot.

Before the game the Major would have been very happy with this result, but on reflection they will be kicking themselves as they had numerous opportunities to more than win this game quite comfortably. **DJ**



Matthew Davies stretches for the line.

Llantwit Major reserves top of the tree this Christmas!

LLANTWIT MAJOR reserves defeated a physical Rhose side 4-0 at home to put them top of the league at the halfway stage.

Manager Jimbo Thomas used his heathy squad by welcoming Stephen Phillips, Andy Shaw, Lewis Brown and keeper Chris Davies to the team.

Llantwit, who were fired up going into the match full of confidence, saw themselves 1-0 up within 12 seconds, as a high press saw Josh Morgan intercept the Rhose centre back and smash the ball past the keeper.

With Rhose employing a physical

aggressive approach to ruffle the Major feathers, Llantwit were happy to match their efforts as the referee continued to keep the game flowing.

Phill Grafton, Joe Cutter and Chris Vinson all produced early strong tackles which gave the whole team a lift.

The second goal came within 25 minutes as inform Vinson put through Andy Shaw to power himself past the defence and place the ball in Corner of the net.

Rhose saw their first real threat on goal as they capitalised on an error and saw their centre forward in the box before keeper Davies bravely smothered the ball.

It was soon to be 3-0

as Morgan doubled his tally in the game from a Gethin Jennings free kick with the faintest of touches, Morgan now has five goals from five games.

The second half saw Rhose press Llantwit a lot more, forcing mistakes as the pitch got heavier and heavier.

Llantwit missed numerous chances to make it 4-0 as Jennings saw his efforts fly over the bar as did Stephen Phillips.

The workhorse Phillips was soon substituted on 70 minutes and Lewis Brown's number also came up, his quality helping Llantwit secure a half lead.

Dafydd James-Isaac, Ryan Malton, Lee Jennings and Hamish Anderson all came on off the bench and performed well as Dafydd nearly found himself on the scoresheet minutes from coming on.

Andy Shaw got the fourth and his sixth of the season from a lovely Jennings ball to seal the win. The next game for the reserves will be in 2018.

Special mention must go to the back four and keeper as they achieved their third consecutive clean sheet. Chris Vinson was awarded the man of the match.

This Saturday, December 16, the club will be hosting a memorial match for Rhys Gould at 1pm - past and present players will be playing with post-match entertainment, raffle prizes and auctions to raise money for his family's chosen charity. Your support would be most welcome.

Team: Davies, Cutter, Wrigley, Grafton, Tracey, Brown, Vinson, G Jennings, Phillips J Morgan, Shaw. Substitutes: Malton, Beattie, Anderson, James-Isaac, L Jennings. **JT**

Ryan's semi-final heartbreak



Ryan Day.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 40

At one stage, the Welshman was left to sit and watch as his opponent racked up 308 points without reply.

Day responded with a magnificent 128 clearance of his own in the eighth frame, but then Murphy's final frame 59 put him through to his third UK final.

In reaching the last four, Day had opened with wins over England's J Curtis-Barrett, (6-0), and Thailand's T Un-Nooh, (6-3).

There then followed a sequence of three successive 6-5 wins against countryman Mark Williams, China's Li Hang, secured with a wonderful 138 break in the final frame, and England's Mark Joyce.

Ranked 19th in the world, Day has won around £1.3 million in prize money during an 18-year professional career and was once

ranked sixth.

He has made over 330 tournament century breaks, including a maximum 147, and won his first ranking event this year. He has great natural ability and is regarded as one of the game's best break-builders.

His next big date comes in January when he faces China's Ding Junhui in the first round of the UK Masters in London.

MICHAEL PROSSER

UNDER-STRENGTH BRIDGEND ATHLETIC SECONDS DEFEATED

DISAPPOINTINGLY, seven Bridgend Athletic second XV players dropped out with various excuses on the morning of the team travelling to meet Crymch in a Welsh Conference West fixture.

This resulted in a depleted squad of only 13 players making the long journey west to take on the league leaders.

To their credit the depleted squad gave the west Wales side a real contest, but sheer weight of numbers prevailed with the home side running out 26-7 winner, outscoring the Athletic by four tries to

IT was plain sailing for Tondy for the first 15 minutes of this WRU Plate third round encounter with Crymch.

Two Josh Tatchell penalties and a converted Steffen Jones try put the Division One side into a 13-0 lead and it looked to be a matter of how many Tondy would score.

But a penalty from Ifan Phillips and then a converted try from the same player brought Crymch back into the game and at 13-10 at the break it was now all to play for.

Strong pressure at the start of the second half from the visitors once again seemed enough to finish off the game as a contest with tries from centre Matthew Davies and wing Sam Grabham, the former converted by Tatchell, put the Waterwheelers into a 25-10 lead and you could be forgiven for thinking the game was over.

Crymch had other ideas though and stunned their visitors with two deserved tries in the final quarter, the first coming from winger Luke Rogers and No8 Osian Davies both converted by Phillips.

At 24-25, and with Crymch in the ascendancy, it was now going to be a nervous final 10 minutes for the visitors.

Crymch did score another try but the referee was unsighted and Tondy were left off

the hook. But two minutes from the end, Crymch were awarded a penalty and the reliable Phillips slotted to seal a memorable win for the Division One West side.

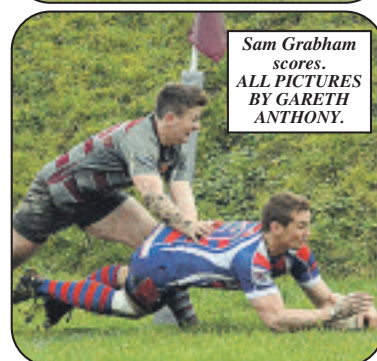
Tondy did have the chance to steal the honours in injury time but a long-range Matthew Murphy effort

fell just short, but Tondy can't really have any complaints after having two chances to close down the game but on both occasions allowing their opponents back into the game.

Tondy's next game is this Saturday, December 16, kick-off 2.30pm, at Pandy Park. **MIKE SULLY**



Adam Harris leaves a Crymch defender floored.



Sam Grabham scores. ALL PICTURES BY GARETH ANTHONY.

Cowbridge Darts League round-up

ON Tuesday, December 5 a full programme of league matches was completed.

This week the league leaders had a tough match, coming back from 2-4 down after the singles to win 5-4 against the Edmondson C.

In the battle for second place the honours went to Llanharri, who beat the Six Bells Inn 7-2.

In the other matches the Edmondson A beat the Red Lion Inn 9-0, the Victoria Inn beat the One Town Hall Square 7-2 and the Highwayman Inn beat the Hairy Farmers 6-3. The Farmers Arms had a bye.

Simon Perkins (Edmondson C) is playing well, last week he hit a 180, this week he won a singles leg in just nine darts. Two new names were added to the '100 or higher' club this week - Neal Curnow (Red Lion Inn) hitting a 100 out and Martin Thomas (Edmondson B) hitting a 104 out. **PJT**

Present league standings, after ten weeks, are: Edmondson B (60 points), Llanharri (56), Six Bells Inn and Highwayman Inn (51), Hairy Farmers and Edmondson A (46), Edmondson C (42), Victoria Inn (36), Farmers Arms (34), One Town Hall Square (18) and Red Lion Inn (10).

Next week, Tuesday December 19, in the last evening of darts before the Christmas and New Year break, the Edmondson Arms will host the Great Western Cup. This is a six-player team knockout competition involving all teams in the league.

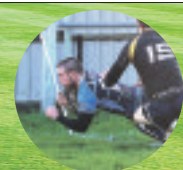
All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome. For further information e-mail Paul a t cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk. **PJT**



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Three wins on the bounce for Athletic

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC made it three successive league victories in succession as they outscored

Aberavon Quins by three tries to one in a 22-7 away win.

In those three games they have amassed 106 points for and only 10 against with a favourable 17-1 try count.

This run of form coincides with the return from a preseason injury of captain and flanker Ben Howe, who turned in a man of the match performance in this game. The win moved the Athletic to third in the Division 1 West Central table – though they have played more games than the two sides immediately below them.

The victory was well deserved but had the home side's finishing been more clinical and the Athletic's defence not first rate the winning margin could have been much less.

On at least three occasions solid defence from the young back line of centres Stuart Floyd-Ellis and Tom Jenkins and wings Robin Davies and Tom James kept out potential try-scoring opportunities for the Quins.

The Quins applied early pressure and a break by outside half Foad Cooksley was halted just short of the line, allowing scrum-half Dan James to clear to touch upfield.

The lineup saw the Quins penalised for Athletic outside-half Luke Bevan to make no mistake with the

resultant penalty to open the scoring.

Quins flanker Connor O'Callaghan then charged down an attempted clearance kick but failed to ground the ball when a try looked likely.

No 8 Sean Williams won a line out on the Quins' 22 to set up a driving maul conducted as usual by hooker Nathan Holman.

The home side had no answer to the growing momentum of the drive and Holman crossed for his third try of the season.

A threatening run from Quins wing Jordan Crealock was halted by a combined tackle from flanker Sam Trehame and wing Tom James, but the Athletic were then penalised for offside.

The home side kicked to touch and set up a driving maul – only to knock on, which signalled half-time with the Athletic 8-0 to the good.

The Quins made a hash of the restart with players in front of the ball. However, they retrieved the situation with former Aberavon No 8 Robbie Morgan, who was a constant thorn in the Athletic side, losing possession just short of the line.

A 40-metre Athletic relief kick was misfielded by the home side. The Athletic's scrum, with front row Wayne Fooks, Matthew Muir and Nathan Holman in the ascendancy, drove the home 8 backwards.

An attempted clearance kick from the Quins was gathered by Athletic full back Michael Powell. The speedster glided through



Dan James with Ben Howe in support. ALL PICTURES BY JOHN CANNON



the home defence and supplied the supporting centre Stuart Floyd-Ellis with a try-scoring pass. Bevan converted to stretch the lead to 15-0.

The Quins responded, moving the ball from a lineup on the Athletic 22 for full back Jordan Condon to run a good line through the Athletic midfield to cross under the posts.

He converted his own try to reduce the deficit to 15-7. The Athletic set-piece was working well, with the lineup

through locks Jonathon Stoker and Chris John and No 8 Sean Williams, aligned to solid scrummaging ensuring plenty of Athletic possession.

The Athletic brought on flanker Ben Davies and lock Ben Cording. Luke Bevan hit the upright with a penalty before the Athletic crossed for their third and match-winning try.

A sustained period of Athletic pressure from driving play with Davies prominent set up a scrum on the home 22.

From the scrum half backs Dan James and Luke Bevan quickly set the back line in motion and slick handling saw a training ground move culminate in centre Floyd-Ellis crossing for his second try of the game and his fourth of the season.

Bevan's conversion saw him pass the half century of points for the season and become the Athletic's leading points

scorer, and also give his side a 22-7 victory.

Coaching assistant David Williams commented: "This was an excellent win with the whole pack playing well with a solid set piece."

"The backs defence was good with centre Floyd-Ellis showing good commitment for his two tries. Perhaps the side could have been more street wise and employed more tactical kicking with the pack in the ascendancy and played their rugby on the front foot closer to the opposition try line."

This Saturday, December 16, the Athletic visit Ammanford looking to avenge an opening day of the season, 29-19 defeat. The Athletic threw away a 19-3 advantage when indiscipline saw them play the final 30 minutes with only 13 or 14 players on the field.

AB

Emphatic win sees Seaweeds reach last 16 of Bowl

FOLLOWING a few weeks without rugby due to the autumn series, in an historic first match between the sides in the fourth round of the WRU Bowl, Porthcawl pulled away to an emphatic win against Trimsaran, making the last 16 for the first time.

The final score might suggest an easy match for the Seaweeds, however Trimsaran made a real fist of things in the first half as they held Porthcawl with a committed display that belied their poor league form.

Tom Matthews got the home side off to a good start as he dived over for a try, with Ben Thomas' conversion hitting the post.

Trimsaran were good value as they fought tooth and nail for every ball and their success around the breakdown saw them slip into the lead with two penalties in 10 minutes, with the penalty count well in their favour.

When they again won the verdict for home transgression at a ruck for their third penalty and 5-9, it looked like there could be a hard second half in store for Porthcawl.

However, the second spell started much better as first of all Seaweeds prop Matt Cooke produced a side-stepping run and superb dummy to break the line, only for Leon McNally to uncharacteristically knock on.

Then a superb break through the middle by flanker Owen Thomas made the try for fellow back-rower Ben Asprea, which Ben Thomas converted to put Porthcawl ahead 12-9 at the break.

The half-time team-talk seemed to work wonders as Porthcawl really turned on the power in the second half.

Within two minutes, Gareth Rees scythed through the midfield for Owen Thomas to get the try, converted by Ben Thomas for 19-9 before another Thomas, Jake this time, produced a barnstorming run for Jordan Skidmore to hand the scoring pass to Gareth Rees, with Ben Thomas converting and suddenly at 26-9, Trimsaran looked shell-shocked.

With 60 minutes gone, the Thomas boys were at



Ben Asprea leaps across the line. ALL PICTURES BY TRACEY WILLIAMS



Gareth Rees celebrates.

it again as Owen produced a great pass to put Jake in for a try which Ben Thomas converted by Ben and 33-9.

Following a kick ahead to the Trimsaran 22, the visitors tried to run the ball back out of defence, only for the pass to fall into the grateful hands of Gareth Rees, who skipped over unopposed for his second try, converted by Thomas, to make it 40-9.

With the visitors now well-beaten and struggling to keep up with the pace of the Porthcawl attack, the try of the match came as a length-of-the-field move started with a superb break from the clever Jack Power, saw the ball handed to Asprea on halfway and he strode away past the covering

defence to score a wonderful try at the posts which Ben Thomas converted for 47-9 moving into injury time. The final nail in the Trimsaran coffin came as Jordan Fox's forceful break up the left saw the ball reach Asprea who crowned the move with his hat-trick try near the corner, his second hat-trick this season.

This time Thomas' conversion fell short to bring down the curtain on another great performance from the Seaweeds at 52-9.

This unbeaten season by Porthcawl so far is well-merited and hopefully will continue on Saturday as Neath Athletic visit South Road, with Porthcawl seeking the double.

PF

Bridgend Bridge Club latest results

THE latest results for recent events at Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows:

Wednesday, December 6, The Celtic Simultaneous Pairs: first, John Beard and Liam Sheridan; second, David Bowen and David Crompton; third, Marjorie Morris and Linda Pinnock. The winners on handicap were David Bowen and David Crompton.

Thursday, December 7: first, Leila O'Hagan and David Newman; second, Eileen Mahoney and Geoff Barnett; third, Stuart Davies and Maggie Ashpole. The winners on handicap were Leila O'Hagan and David Newman.

Friday, December 8, the second round of the Club Mixed Pairs Competition: first, Glenda Roberts and Liam Sheridan; second, Marjorie Morris and Bill Turner; third, Irene

Thomas and Irene Wickham.

The overall winners of the Club Mixed Pairs are Glenda Roberts and Liam Sheridan. The winners on handicap were Irene Thomas and Irene Wickham.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Noltan Church Hall. Play is scheduled to start at 7pm, to enable a prompt start it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding. All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

For further information about lessons and club activities, contact Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968, John Evans on 01656 880372 or David Newman on 01656 649138.

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Ryan reaches UK Championship snooker semi-final

BRIDGEND'S Ryan Day reached the semi-finals of one of snooker's 'triple crown' of major tournaments for the first time with a fine performance in the UK Championship at York.

The 37-year-old from Pontycymer beat five opponents on his way to a semi-final clash with England's Shaun Murphy.

But Murphy – 13 places ahead of Day in the world rankings – produced some great snooker to emerge a deserved 6-3 winner and earn a place in the final, where he lost 10-5 to Ronnie O'Sullivan.

Murphy was close to his fluent best against Day, stroking in two centuries and further breaks of 89 and 73.

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